

A BRIEF HISTORY OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Illustrated

By

H. W. KRIEBEL

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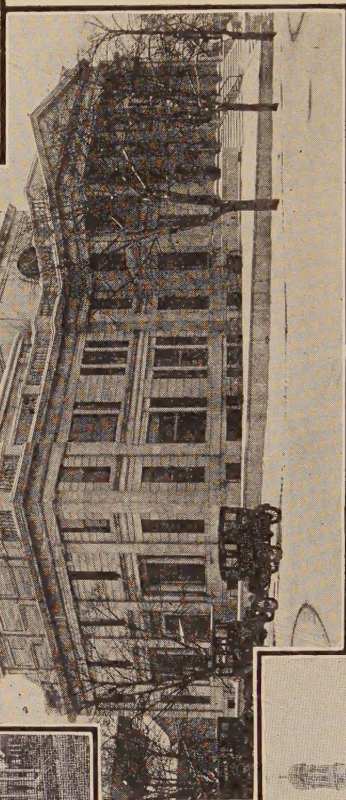
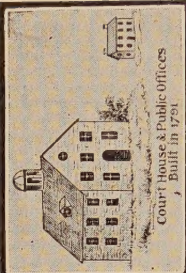
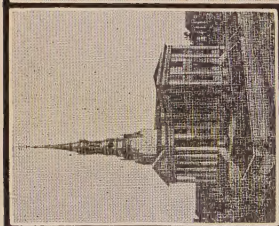
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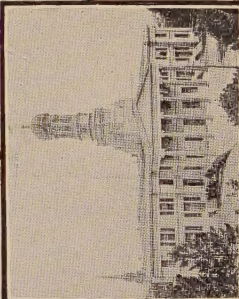


1854—Upper left hand corner

1787—Upper right hand corner

1876—Lower left hand corner

1902—Center, present building



THE COUNTY COURT HOUSE

A
BRIEF HISTORY
of
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA

WITH AN ACCOMPANYING MAP

PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION
of
THE SCHOOL DIRECTORS' ASSOCIATION
for
THE USE OF SCHOOLS

by
H. W. KRIEBEL

NORRISTOWN
THE SCHOOL DIRECTORS' ASSOCIATION
1923

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PREFACE



The object of this publication, prepared by request under the supervision of The School Directors' Association, is to provide for the use of the public schools of Montgomery County a text-book on local history. The book assumes on the part of teacher and pupil a general knowledge, acquired or to be acquired, of the history of the Indians, of state and nation, besides local, state, and national laws and government; in consequence some relevant topics are either merely referred to or entirely omitted. A successful use of the book in the classroom will necessitate work supplementary to what is provided by the text.

Misstatements of fact have probably crept into the text, either through insufficient original research or through acceptance of unverified data gleaned from many sources; for these the kind indulgence of teacher and pupil will be appreciated. Since accepted authorities differ, variations in punctuation, capitalization and orthography appear, the author not deeming himself called upon to decide where doctors disagree.

The author finds pleasure in acknowledging the appreciated encouragement and courteous assistance given by many individuals and officials—in particular by the school authorities of the county, the school superin-

tendent and his assistants, the school directors and the teachers. Without such hearty co-operation the work would not have been undertaken and could not have been completed. Specific acknowledgment is impossible under the limiting conditions of the book itself. For a like reason a citation of authorities is precluded.

The book is sent forth on its mission in the hope that it may help to awaken in the coming generation a consciousness of its precious heritage in the history of Montgomery County.

Pennsburg, Pa., July 6, 1923.

THE AUTHOR.

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A BRIEF HISTORY
OF
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

*The
Transformed
Life*

There are three periods in the life of insects; the larva or masked period, the pupa or bandaged-baby period, the adult or full-grown period. The pest on wings that at night pipes a maligned melody into its victim's ear before drawing its fill of blood from his bald head was once a swimmer in stagnant water that threw its outgrown skin aside to become a floating ball which it in turn burst and kicked off to fly away a mischievous, musical mosquito. To understand the butterfly, one must know also the green, golden-spotted caterpillar which, after becoming a seemingly lifeless, headless and limbless body, was transformed into the beautiful, winged creature flitting from flower to flower on warm, summer days. In like manner, to understand a nation, a state, or a county, one must know its beginnings and the changes it has undergone. Confucius said: "From the past learn the future." Patrick Henry said: "I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past." To appreciate Montgomery county and judge of its future one must know its past. Hence this book.

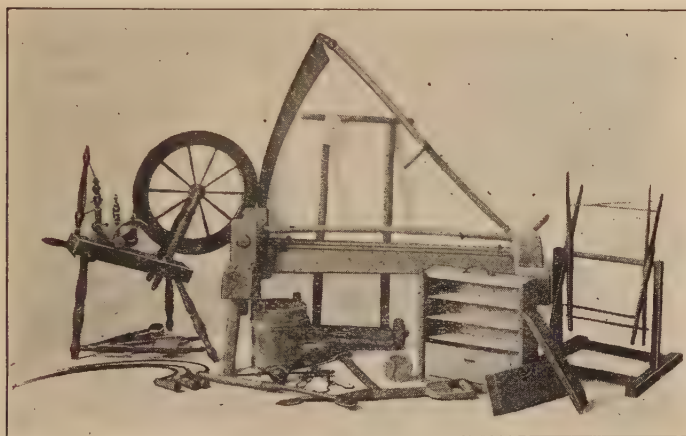
*Three
Centuries
Ago*

Three centuries ago (A. D. 1623) there was no Montgomery county, no Keystone state, no United States of America. Europe was turning its back to the past in the East to face a New World dawning in the West. The men who were to explore, found, settle, and develop Pennsylvania were unborn. A few unlettered Indians were sustaining a precarious existence by hunting and fishing in the primeval forests and unpolluted streams of Montgomery county, which probably had not been seen by European eyes. What William Penn did see three score years later in the land that was to become Montgomery county he described in these words:

“The land is generally good, well water’d and not so thick of wood as imagin’d; there are also many open places that have been old Indian fields. The trees that grow here are the mulberry, white and red, walnut, black, gray, and hickory, poplar, cedar, cyprus, chestnut, ash, sassafras, gum, pine, spruce, oake, black, white, red, Spanish chestnut and swamp, which has a leaf like a willow and is most lasting. The food the woods yield is your elks, deer, raccoons, beaver, rabbits, turkeys, pheasants, heath-birds, pigeons, and partredges, unnumerably; we need no setting dogs to ketch; they run by droves into the houses in cold weather. Our rivers have also plenty of excellent fish and water fowl, as sturgeon, rock, shad, herring, catfish, or flatheads, sheepheads, roach, and perch and trout in inland streams; of fowls, the swan, white, gray and black goose, and brands, the best duck and teal I ever ate, and the snipe and the curlue with the snowbird are also excellent.”

*Two
Centuries
Ago*

Two centuries ago (A. D. 1723) there was no Montgomery county, no Keystone state, no United States. Europe had come, seen, and appropriated the Western continent. William Penn had lived, created a colony, planted therein an idea and gone to his eternal home. Penn's infant colony was composed of three vaguely defined counties; of Philadelphia, the most influential of these, Montgomery,



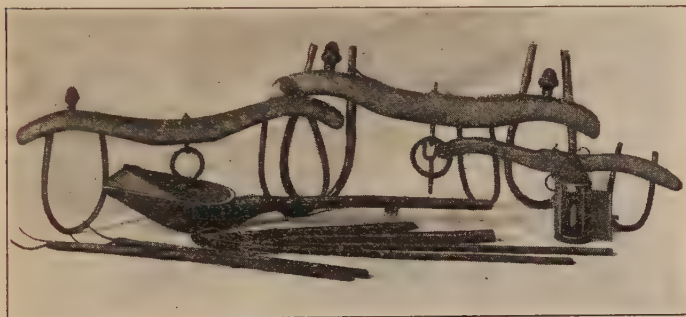
FARM IMPLEMENTS, MUSEUM OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

though not then formed or even dreamed of, was an important part. Much of the future county, of all of which William Penn had become owner by charter grant of his king and by purchase from the Indians, had already passed into the hands of resident and non-resident purchasers. In nearly every one of the original townships, houses had been built, churches erected, schools opened, roads laid out, virgin forests transformed into fruitful fields and verdant meadows, and the ceaseless struggle for food, raiment, comfort, and provision against old age

and the rainy day undertaken. Cares were many, callings few, comforts rare, cash scant.

One Century Ago One century ago (A. D. 1823) Montgomery county celebrated its thirty-ninth birthday. The Indians, excepting the few allowed to remain in Warren county, had disappeared from the state, having left the county many years previously. "We, the people," of whom Montgomery county was not an insignificant part, had declared and successfully maintained our political independence from the Old World, and our inalienable right on both land and sea to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Improved roads crisscrossed the county; gristmills, sawmills, tanneries, stately churches, capacious barns, little red schoolhouses had become familiar sights. Comforts and the rewards of honest labor sweetened toil; the foundations of fortunes were being laid; but yet the present-day conveniences, appliances, and luxuries in the home, on the farm, in the shop and behind the counter as well as the means of travel, and the mediums for conveying knowledge that seem so indispensable today, were then unknown. In the ordinary farmer's home, there was no carpet on the floor, no papering on the wall, no hard or soft coal in the cellar, no sewing machine in the living room but instead a number of spinning wheels, no ready-made clothing nor shoe, no pipeless heating system but instead the open fireplace with crane and simmering pot, no electric, gas or kerosene light, no telegraph or telephone, no phonograph or photograph, no illustrated Sunday paper with colored funny pages. On the farm there were no mowing machines, no self-binders, no hayrakes, no haytedders, no graindrills, no riding plows or harrows, no thrashing machines, no gasoline engines, no tractors, no silos, no elliptical springs for even the Sunday go-to-

meeting carriage, no Portland cement. As means of travel there were no bicycles, no automobiles, no railroads, no street car lines in cities, no aeroplanes, no trans-Atlantic steamship lines, no submarines. As mediums of education, there were no free schools, no free text-books, no steel pens, no consolidated schools, no daily morning and evening newspapers, lying beside the breakfast or supper plate, telling what has happened the whole world



FARM IMPLEMENTS. MUSEUM OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

over the past twenty-four hours, and what the evening wireless radio programs a thousand miles away will provide.

Today Today men fly like birds, swim like fish, burrow like moles. Their pathways of iron pass across mighty rivers, through massive mountains, and along miry river beds. They change night into day, winter into summer, culm and cinder into gold and make air, water, and electricity, old as creation, in ten thousand ways serve as hewers of wood and drawers of water for society. They embalm music and speech to be resurrected a hundred years hence none

the worse for a century's sleep. Outstripping the flight of time they read at the six o'clock breakfast table the metropolitan daily, which relates things that happened half way around the globe at twelve o'clock of the same day.

Today Montgomery county counts school children by the ten thousand, citizens by the hundred thousand, expenses by the million, valuation by the hundred million. The county has been an asylum for the oppressed, a gateway to the boundless West, a bread house for the hungry, a Samaritan for the suffering, a melting pot of divers nationalities. The county is and always has been a loyal constituent part of "We, the people of the United States," a mighty republic and yet only a growing youth sitting in the midst of the old nations of the world teaching them and asking questions.

There has been a change for which there is also a reason. Montgomery's sons and daughters speaking for themselves and their forbears can proudly and truthfully say, "We have been Trojans," but they can not say this effectively unless they know the history of Montgomery, which like sister counties came out of great tribulation.

Why Referring to the little log schoolhouse to
Study which as a child he tramped fifty years be-
History fore, Daniel Webster in 1840 said in a public
speech: "I make it an annual visit. I carry
my children to it, to teach them the hardships endured by
the generations which have gone before." Philip Schaff
said: "History is, and must ever continue to be, next to
God's word, the richest fountain of wisdom, and the
surest guide to all practical activity. To reject her voice
is to rob ourselves of our own right to exist, or, at least,
to condemn our own life; since we owe to her, in fact,
whether we choose to do so or not, all that we are and all

that we can become." Knowledge of one's native county, its origin and growth, its early struggles and hardships, its familiar scenes and places, the achievements of human skill, of the contributions made to welfare and progress, of the part played in local, state, and national affairs, must make more influential and patriotic citizens, more useful members of society, more noble men and women and prepare them the better to appreciate the history of other men, times and places.

*Aim
of
Book*

The aim of this book is to set forth in convenient and attractive form for use in the school room and by the home fireside some data illustrating the rise and progress of Montgomery county.

It is hoped the book may become a means of developing a more intimate and more appreciative knowledge of the history of Montgomery county; a warmer, keener, livelier civic love and pride of home, county, state and nation; a more hearty and widespread compliance with the old but not antiquated command: "Honor thy father and mother [which implies the forbears long since at rest], that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee."



SEAL OF WILLIAM PENN

CHAPTER II

HOW THE COUNTY WAS ACQUIRED

*William
Penn
the Man*

William Penn (1644-1718), the self-sacrificing, untiring, and unyielding Quaker, the son of a distinguished naval commander, Sir William Penn, and his wife, a Dutch lady, Margaret Jasper was educated at Lincoln's Inn and at Oxford University whence he was expelled with other students on account of holding meetings for religious



WILLIAM PENN

From Painting in Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pa.

worship. This youthful choice, to obey God and conscience rather than man and custom and to follow duty as he saw it no matter where it led, moulded his whole future life, influenced the history of Pennsylvania, and helped to

make the United States the world's grandest, richest, and most influential republic. He was turned out of doors at the age of eighteen, soon to be recalled and, in hope of ruining his religion, sent to gay and profligate Paris and continental Europe. On his return two years later he was placed in charge of his father's affairs in Ireland where his religion caused his imprisonment. He was expelled from home a second time at the age of twenty-four about which time he became a minister in the Society of Friends.

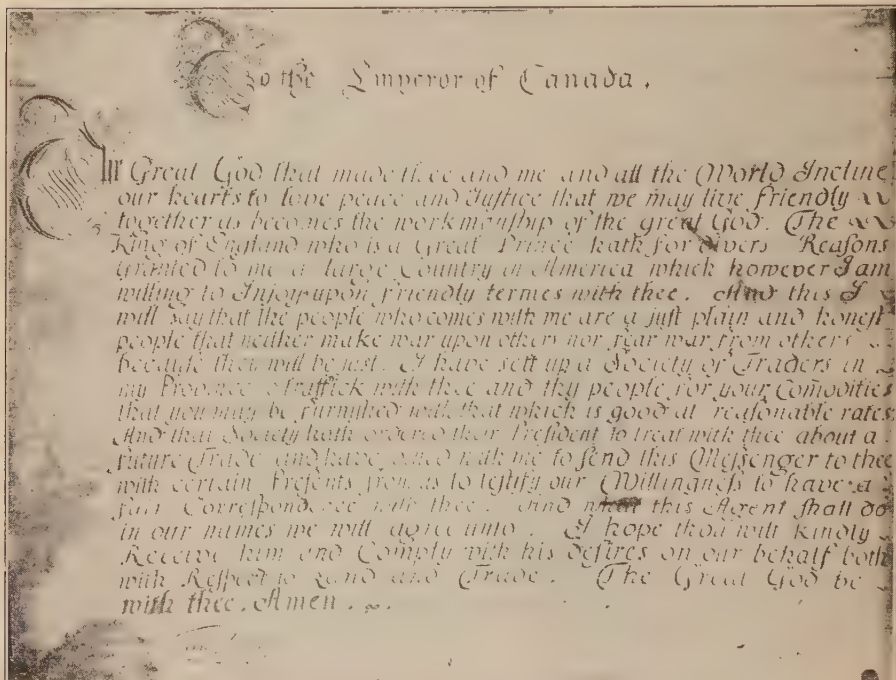
Three times he was imprisoned on account of his religious convictions; three times he made missionary preaching tours through Holland and Germany; three different ways were chosen to set forth the faith that was in him, speech, pen and the founding of a province in the New World; three phases of activity marked his life;—as a forceful speaker, as a voluminous writer, as the self-sacrificing and successful proprietor of a “free colony for all mankind,” the future Keystone State.

He was married to Gulielma Maria Springett in the year 1672, who died in the year 1694, leaving as their children: Springett, who died in infancy; Letitia, and William. In the year 1696 he was married to Hannah Callowhill, who with their three sons, John, Thomas and Richard, survived him.

Wm. Penn
the
Founder To secure payment of debts due his father, William Penn, June 24, 1680, asked of the king unoccupied crown land, “a tract of land in America north of Maryland, bounded on the east by the Delaware, on the west limited as Maryland, northward as far as plantable.” By the royal signature, March 24, 1681, the grant was given by charter and he became the proprietor of future Pennsyl-

vania, "a tract of 390 miles by 160 of extreme fertility, mineral wealth and richness of all kinds."

"The charter having been granted Penn made immediate preparations to secure settlers for his province



LETTER OF INTRODUCTION BY WILLIAM PENN "TO THE EMPEROR OF CANADA"

and to develop its resources. The Free Society of Traders was organized to promote both these objects; pamphlets were prepared by his own hand and widely circulated either as a whole or in part in Holland, Germany and France, as well as in England and Wales, presenting the advantages of his province as a home for

all who were dissatisfied with their surroundings; an elaborate 'frame of government' for the province was also prepared by his own hand" (Swank). Sales of land were made. William Markham, cousin of William Penn and commissioner to establish his authority in the province, was sent to the province in the summer of 1681, and William Penn himself with about seventy colonists arrived in the ship, *Welcome*, October, 1682. Philadelphia county was organized and defined December 4, 1682, at Upland. In March, 1693, the General Assembly first met in Philadelphia which then became the seat of government.

Purchase of Montg. Co. William J. Buck, in Scott's Combination Atlas Map of Montgomery County, describes the purchase of the land of Montgomery county in the following words:

"The earliest purchase by Penn of any part of what now constitutes Montgomery county was made June 25, 1683, of Wingebone, for all his right to lands lying on the west of the Schuylkill, beginning at the lower falls of the same, and so on up, and backwards of said stream as far as his right goes. The next purchase was made July 14th of the same year, from Secane and Idquoquehan and others, for all the land lying between the Manayunk or Schuylkill river, and Macopanackan or Chester river and up as far as Conshohocken hill, which is opposite the present borough of that name (Conshohocken). On the same day another purchase was made of Neneschickan, Malebore, Neshanocke, and Oscreneon for the lands lying between the Schuylkill and Pennepack, and extending as far northward as Conshohocken, but now better known as Edge Hill. On June 3, 1684, all

No 16.
 Munckton. the 25th day ofth 4. North 1600 Dunt inly year
 according to an English account 1683 for my heirs & assigns doo
 give, grant & release of all my lands lying on the West side of a small
 River beginning from a first falls of it and all along upon the River
 and Backward of my lands so far as my right goeth to William
 Penn Propriet and Govern^r of Pennsylvania &c. his heirs & assigns
 for ever the Foundation of so much Rampart and other Works as
 he shall please to give unto me seeing for my heirs and assigns some
 curing all Claims & Demands of any thing in or for the future. In Witness
 whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal the 25 day & year first above
 written

Witness my hand & Seal the 25 day & year first above
 written

Wm Penn

the right of Maughausin to the land along the Perkiomen creek, was duly sold and conveyed, with an acknowledgment of goods received in satisfaction and a promise never to molest any Christians that shall settle thereon. Four days after the aforesaid Mettamicont relinquishes all his right to the lands on both sides of the Pennepack. July 30, 1685, Shakhoppa, Secane, Malebore and Tangoras conveyed all their right to lands situated between Chester and Pennepack creeks, and extending up into the country in a northeast direction from the sources of these streams, two full days' journey. This grant takes in almost the whole of the county, excepting only that portion lying east of the Pennepack. July 5, 1697, another purchase was made from Tamany, Weheeland, Wehequeekhon, Yaqueekhon, and Quenamockquid for all their right to lands between the Pennepack and Neshaminy creeks, and extending in a northwest direction from the Delaware as far as a horse could travel in two days. Thus was finally extinguished by purchase all the right and title of the Indians to any portion of the soil now embraced within the limits of Montgomery county."

Although Montgomery county was thus acquired by William Penn, there is no evidence that any permanent settlements had been made in it before he became proprietor. The Schuylkill river was discovered in 1616. The Swedish colony on the Delaware, 1638, probably made explorations. The Pennypack was noted and named, 1654. Land on the west side of the Schuylkill was conveyed 1677. The same year Beaver Island, known later as Duck Island, received its name.

*The
Pioneers*

In addition to zeal, vision, frame of government, wide-spreading acres, field, forest and stream, Penn needed men, brain and brawn, to make his Holy Experiment and these came. They came—at first singly, then in small groups, then by scores of shiploads, the stream of humanity swelling until the very floodgates of Europe seemed to have opened themselves. The Dutch, Swedes, English, Germans, Silesians, Welsh, French, Scotch-Irish, Africans came. They came as Mennonite, Quaker, Schwenkfelder, Dunkard, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Catholic, Lutheran, Reformed, Deist, Atheist. They cautiously hugged the shores of the Delaware, they ventured into the adjoining counties, they scaled the mountains, forded the rivers, fought the wild beasts into interior Pennsylvania and with their offspring overflowed state-bounds into Maryland, Virginia, the Carolinas, eventually to radiate into the South and West and become part of the web and woof of the United States.

*Causes
of
Migration*

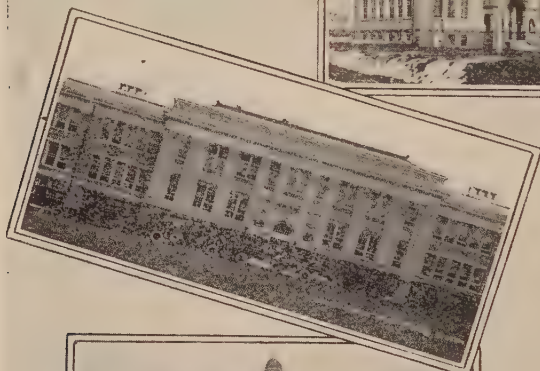
The forerunners of William Penn, Dutch, Swede and English, who numbering a few thousands did nothing to affect the state, had come as explorers, traders, and advance guard of their home countries, to colonize and establish governments. After the founding of the colony other motives compelled migration. Men in Europe combined church and state. Men sought then by might and power, by merciless slaughter of fellowmen and ruthless destruction of property, as they do now, to further what they regarded as God's cause. In consequence, religio-political warfare had rent Europe a full century before Penn's time. The pages of history of England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Spain, France, Germany, the Netherlands abound in heartrending stories of exclusion from all public func-

tions, from the universities, and from engaging in commerce or industry; of worthiest citizens being abruptly exiled from their homelands; of hundreds of thousands fleeing from their homes to strange lands for safety; of intolerable tyranny; of executions closely following executions; of cold-blooded murders; of parents with tiny babies fleeing to mountain fastnesses to perish of cold and hunger; of infants torn from the arms of their mothers; of multitudes being consigned to loathsome dungeons, racked with exquisite torture and treated with every kind of outrage; of thousands being beheaded or hanged or burned or buried alive; of the heartless butchering of husbands before the eyes of their wives and children; of ministers being broken on the wheel; of women aged and young being tied to stakes in the sea to be overwhelmed and drowned by the advancing tides; of murder, rape, and incendiary conflagrations; of dragoons being quartered on the citizens who abandoned themselves to every kind of brutal violence and excess; of men even making a study as to how to inflict all the pain the human body could endure short of death—countless cruelties committed in the name of religion. Can there be any wonder that earnest souls in these countries were anxious to go to Pennsylvania, the land of religious liberty?

Other classes of immigrants were the redemptioners, the Hessians, the slaves. The redemptioners, poverty stricken at home, but of noblest soul, came to escape abject misery of the homeland, and thus better their temporal condition, and became nation builders. Unprincipled newlanders found gain in convincing these to migrate. Ship captains likewise found gain in transporting them or sinking their lifeless bodies in the deep sea and robbing their chests and purses, and, voyage ended, selling the survivors on

the auction block. Mittelberger, an eyewitness, thus describes these sales: "Every day, Englishmen, Dutchmen, and high German people come from the city of Philadelphia and other places, some from a great distance, say ninety, and one hundred and twenty miles away, and go on board the newly arrived ship that has brought and offers for sale passengers from Europe, and select among the healthy persons such as they deem suitable for their business, and bargain with them how long they will serve for their passage money, for which most of them are still in debt. When they have come to an agreement, it happens that adult persons bind themselves in writing to serve three, four, five, or six years for the amount due by them according to their age and strength. * * * Many persons must sell and trade away their children like so many head of cattle * * * as the parents often do not know where and to what people their children are going, it often happens that such parents and children, after leaving the ship do not see each other again for years, perhaps no more in all their lives." The Hessians, involuntary hirelings, came here as part of the British army to help prevent America winning its God-given rights. They remained as deserters from the army to become useful citizens, even though despised and maligned. Negroes were brought here against their wills to be bought and sold for gain as cattle, and to be made the involuntary toilers and burden-bearers for the enrichment of the white man in Penn's "free colony for all mankind."

Rocks such as these were the materials chosen by destiny to lay the foundations of our Montgomery county. How they were placed will be considered in the next chapter.



MODERN HIGH SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Hatfield Township and Borough
Lower Merion Township

Worcester Township
Abington Township

CHAPTER III

SETTLING THE COUNTY

Conveying the Title In Chapter I it was shown that great changes have taken place within the limits of Montgomery county since the white man has taken possession and that it is desirable to know the history of the county. In Chapter II attention was directed to William Penn, the man and the founder of Pennsylvania, to the acquisition of Montgomery county, and to the first settlers and the reasons why they came. The next logical step is to learn how the settlers acquired possession of and gradually transformed and developed the county—the aim of this chapter.

The story of the conveying of title from the proprietor, William Penn, and his heirs to the pioneers, of the laying out of the roads, of the gradual acquisition, settlement, and development of the county, is interesting and instructive, but can be told only very briefly and in general terms. In the twilight decades of the county the toilers made rather than recorded history. On account of the primitive condition of people and land, surveys were not always accurate. Roads were used upon sufferance, twenty, thirty, and more years, without legal confirmation. In compiling the road dockets the transcriber seemingly did not put into his records all the road data and became confused in arranging the material chronologically on account of the year, prior to 1752, beginning in March according to the Old Style and not in January according to the New Style. Affairs in general were in a more or less confused condition many years.

William Penn acquired title to his colony, not for himself but for others; not to hold but to pass on; not to be-

come rich but to make rich. He sold more than half a million acres of unlocated land in his province before even seeing it himself, some of which was located in Montgomery county. Subsequently to his arrival, many additional tracts, varying greatly in size, were sold to individuals and companies. Title was conveyed by a deed of grant in fee simple called patent, either by himself or through commissioners acting for him. The terms of sale varied, but usually included quit-rent, which meant that the purchaser was quit and free from all feudal service. The quit-rents occasioned a great deal of trouble later on.

To acquire a definite tract of land the intending purchaser would, upon application to the land office, receive a warrant addressed to the surveyor-general specifying approximately the location and acreage of the land which the applicant either wished to buy or to have surveyed in right of a previous purchase of unlocated land. The surveyor-general or his deputy thereupon made the survey, the return of which was delivered to the land office within six months. Title to such surveyed land began ordinarily with the issue of the warrant, but was not conveyed until the conditions of sale were complied with—often delayed fifty or more years during which period ownership was probably transferred a number of times. If conditions of sale were not complied with the grant of land was declared void, after which new applications for the tract would be considered. Resurveys were for various reasons made and new patents issued based on these.

Title by improvement was a right acquired by one who, without observing established regulations, occupied land not already sold or appropriated by the proprietaries. Through the acquiescence of the land officers and even of the Penns themselves, both as an inducement to

settle and develop and as an offset to meet the competition of other colonies, the practice of making allowance for improvements grew up at a very early period. It was estimated that by the year 1726 one hundred thousand persons had settled on land within the province without a shadow of right. These were the squatters of whom there were some within Montgomery county.

Locating the Roads The first highways of the county were Indian trails and the Schuylkill river. Bridle paths and cartways came into use as a matter of necessity without legal process. As the need of a legally confirmed road became evident a petition would be submitted to the Court of Quarter Sessions, who, on favorable consideration of the petition, would name six citizens as viewers of the proposed road. These, or any four of them, with the assistance of a surveyor, would view the desired road, lay it out, and submit their report, including a draft of the road, to the court who, if they approved, would confirm the report and instruct the overseers to cut and open the road. The running of boundary lines and the locating of roads through deep forests, matted underbrush, and treacherous marshes, particularly in the unsettled sections of the county, and in the midst of the wild animal life, was a tedious and trying task. William Penn had planned to lay out main roads in advance of settlement. This could not be done. In consequence he donated for the use of roads six acres for every one hundred a man purchased. This allowance of six per cent has ever since been made in all patents.

In the laying out of roads the division lines between adjoining tracts were in many cases followed so that each contributed half of the road-bed for which no compensation was allowed. Old roads are in consequence important landmarks.

*People
and
Language* In the peopling of the county the Swedes became residents of Upper Merion; the Dutch of Perkiomen, Skippack, and Providence; the Welsh, of the Merions, Gwynedd, Whittapain, Towamencin, Hatfield, Montgomery, Whitemarsh, and Plymouth townships. The English were first settlers of Cheltenham, Abington, Plymouth, Springfield, Whitemarsh, Upper Dublin, Moreland, and Horsham; the Germans settled mostly in the upper end of the county, although a few families were located in townships near Germantown. In some sections English, Welsh, and German dwelt and prospered side by side. The German supplanted the Welshman and Dutchman in many instances; the latter soon outgrew their mother tongue, while the former has retained his in the familiar Pennsylvania-German dialect.

For the sake of brevity and preciseness, present-day geographical terms are used here and elsewhere regardless of the time when names and places originated.

Such far-reaching changes were wrought in a few years that it seems best to study the settling of the county by decades.

The pupil in observing the onward progress of events must bear in mind the moulding influence of Philadelphia, for many years the great gateway from Europe to Penn's colony, and Germantown, the town of the Germans, the two centers from which the immigrants radiated into the surrounding country. Philadelphia and Montgomery counties have been interdependent from the very beginning of their existence. Either without the other would have found the struggle for life and its comforts much severer than was actually experienced.



BENJAMIN LAY (1677-1759)

"Lived to the Age of 80, in the Latter Part of Which, he Observed extreme Temperance in his Eating and Drinking, his Fondness for a Particularity in Dress and Costume at times Subjected him to the Ridicule of the Ignorant but his Friends who were Intimate with Him thought Him an Honest Religious man."

1682 During this period patents were issued for
to land in Abington, Cheltenham, Horsham,
1690 Merion, Moreland, Springfield, Towamencin,
Upper Dublin, Whitemarsh, and Whitpain.

In addition warrants were issued for tracts in Franconia, Montgomery, Limerick, Providence, Salford, and Worcester. Homes were being established, at least, in Cheltenham, Lower Merion, Plymouth, Whitemarsh, and Whitpain. Springfield was set aside for Penn's wife, and Norriton, under the name of Williamstaedt, for his son William. Some of these and many later transactions, involving each a thousand acres or more, were land speculations which rendered a distinct service to the infant colony even though at times undue advantage was taken of poor and unintelligent immigrants. Hunters and prospectors for rich ores probably penetrated the forests far beyond the tracts covered by patents and warrants.

It seemed for a while as if manors with manorial rights might become established in Moreland, Springfield, and the Welsh tract; the name, and name only, Manor of Moreland, lingered almost if not quite a century.

The townships named above were of course not organized; their boundaries were in consequence undefined. Abington, Cheltenham, Lower Merion, Moreland and Plymouth originated however. The three original counties, though redefined, were still vague and indefinite, and remained so for many years. In consequence some geographical terms designated much larger tracts than they do at present.

Plymouth road, which became a main thoroughfare to Germantown and Philadelphia and later was embodied in the Germantown and Perkiomen turnpike, was laid out as a cartroad. When it was granted the proviso was

made that there must be no disturbance or molestation of the Indians in laying it out. The Schuylkill river being a highway, conflicts arose between boatmen and fishermen, which later caused the passage of laws against the erection of racks, weirs, and dams in the river.

1691
to
1700

In this period there was a natural lull in land transactions. Only a few patents were issued in Springfield and Upper Dublin. Warrants were granted for the Lane tract of 2500 acres in Providence and the Fairman tract of 1000 acres in Franconia. Gwynedd was acquired by the Welsh. The Pennsylvania Land Company bought 5000 acres in Lower Providence, the last of which was disposed of half a century later. The Welsh tract west of the Schuylkill, occupied by eighty families, was divided, part being thrown into Chester county, the residents thus early learning by practical experience what dividing and ruling means in politics.

Communities in Abington, Whitemarsh, Gwynedd, and Lower Merion were populous enough to make desirable the erection of meeting houses for religious worship. These with the bridges and schoolhouses became landmarks by which to designate places and communities.

During this time pioneers, following the Schuylkill river, penetrated beyond the present limits of the county. They soon began to clamor for road accommodations.

The Scotch-Irish who began to appear at the close of the period were encouraged to move to the frontier—and incidentally to live free lives and prepare to free others.

Roads demanded attention. Radnor in Chester county and Cheltenham sent in their applications. In

a petition for the Limekiln road, from the Fitzwater limekilns to the city, the signers spoke of running the road into the Plymouth road "near Cresson where there is neither improved land, hill nor water to interfere."

The first lime used in Philadelphia was made of burnt oystershells, but competition by the Fitzwater lime soon drove the oystershell lime from the market. Roads were laid out to accommodate the lime carts. Horses tugged away in these, single file. This meant three ruts to be filled by rains in summer time and frozen hard in winter time. A law was therefore passed that not more than three horses could be hitched tandem. If there were more they had to be hitched two and two abreast.

1701 Patents were issued during this period for
to land in Douglass, Frederick, Gwynedd, Hat-
1710 field, Horsham. Limerick, Montgomery,
Providence, Merion, New Hanover, Norriton, Plymouth, Salford, Towamencin, Upper Dublin, Whitmarsh, Whitpain, and Worcester. Among the larger tracts granted were: Manor of Mount Joy, 7800 acres, to Letitia, daughter of the proprietor; Williamstaedt, 7480 acres, to William, the son of the proprietor; Manor of Douglass, 12,000 acres, to John, the son of the proprietor; the Frankfort Land Company tract, 22,377 acres; Van Bebber township, 6166 acres, to Martin Van Bebber; Horsham, 5062 acres, to Joseph Fisher, and 5088 acres to Samuel Carpenter; Plymouth, 5327 acres, to Francis Rawle and Elizabeth Fox; Limerick, 3600 acres, to the Pennsylvania Company; Providence, 2500 acres, to Edward Lane. Gwynedd township, acquired and occupied by 30 Welsh families, was resurveyed, 7820 acres becoming thereby 11,000 acres. Williamstaedt, later known as Norriton, was sold, a few days after the patent was granted, to Edward Trent and Isaac Norris. Trent dis-

posed of his interest and went to New Jersey to give his name to Trenton. John Penn in 1735 sold his tract to George McCall, when it became known as McCall Manor. John Henry Sprogell acquired by questionable means all of the Frankfort Land Company grant, reaching from the Schuylkill river nearly to the Bucks county line. Pastorius, who was a financial loser through the crooked dealings of Sprogell, spoke of his (Sprogell's) "unheard-of villanies, perverseness," and his "diabolical lies, pride, bragging, and boasting." Among the patents issued were a few in Frederick township, not far from Schwenksville, where the patentees saw visions of wealth in the form of copper mines. One of these patents was allowed to become void; the other furnished business for the sheriff.

Roads called for increasing attention. Disputes were arising that had to be disposed of. Petitions clamored for new roads which were laid out, radiating from Philadelphia towards Cheltenham, Chester county, Pennypack creek, Perkiomen creek, Maunatauny and on into Berks county. Opening roads meant the cutting and clearing of a sufficient cartway with ax, pick and shovel. Turnpike roads were a full century away; concrete roads two centuries away.

Settlers were already beginning to get into each other's way as, for example, John Jones, a Philadelphia merchant, who was developing a plantation in the northeast section of Lower Moreland, complained that other settlers were interfering with his operations.

Farmer's mill on the Wissahickon, known later far and wide, began to rattle and chatter. Congregations still existing were organized in Whitemarsh and New Hanover. Some of the Welshmen beyond the Schuylkill must have regarded themselves as oldtimers, for in a petition to the court they spoke of their being settled there many years.

The following townships were established: Gwynedd, Whitemarsh and Whitpain.

1711 Land grants were comparatively few in this
to period because of Penn's condition and
1720 ceased altogether at his death in 1718. The
patents issued were located in Franconia,
Providence, Salford, Springfield, and Worcester town-
ships. The three largest grants were in Franconia: 810
acres to Thomas Wilson which was kept intact until
1789; 610 acres to James Dickinson, and 893 acres to
Francis Daniel Pastorius; the latter two not being kept
intact very long.

Roads, as usual, demanded attention. Many of them
were used on sufferance and were liable to be closed at
any time without notice by the landowners. Petitions
for roads dwelt on the need of roads to mills, fulling mills
and houses of worship. Inns had not yet come into promi-
nence as landmarks. One petition calls for a road from
the Perkiomen, through vacant land to the Frankfort
tract and on to Amity, showing that settlements were
being made in sections, leaving other sections unsettled.
The roads confirmed were confined mainly to points
within the lower half of the county and rather crosswise
than lengthwise of the county, showing that there was
a call for intercommunication between points within the
county. The Old York road, the Bethlehem road, and the
Welsh road were among those confirmed.

During this period Thomas Rutter began the manu-
facture of iron along the Manatawny, not far from Potts-
town; the first in the United States. Thomas Potts, Jr.,
also took up the same industry. These soon began to
petition for roads. The iron industry naturally involved
the development of other industries.

The Swedes took up their residence in the neighbor-

hood of Bridgeport and Dutch and Germans began to appear in the Perkiomen, Skippack, Providence section.

Van Bebber gave 100 acres upon which all inhabitants of his township might build a schoolhouse and bury their dead. Similar gifts were made by others.



THE OLD SCHOOLHOUSE, VALLEY FORGE; BUILT, 1705, BY LETITIA AUBREY, THE SECOND DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM PENN.
RESTORED BY PARK COMMISSION

Churches of various faiths were organized in White-marsh, Abington, Plymouth, Upper Salford, Horsham, and Montgomery townships, the erection of buildings following as soon as money and men made the step possible.

Before the close of this period the population of the province had grown to 40,000, of whom the half were Friends, and a fourth lived in Philadelphia. Naturally a considerable portion of these had to travel through Montgomery county on their way to and from the city.

The following townships were established: Horsham, Montgomery, Upper Dublin, Upper Merion.

1721 No patents were issued in this period until
to the sons of William Penn, to whom the pro-
1730 prietor bequeathed his Pennsylvania inter-
ests, had become of age. Grants were then
made for a few tracts in Frederick, Salford, and Wor-
cester. Among these were: 500 acres to James Steel in
Frederick, 1300 to the same party, in Salford and Fran-
conia, and 1052 acres to Derick Janson. The Salford
patentees were Germans. Warrants were taken up for
a few tracts in Upper Hanover.

It was during this period that the Reformed and
Lutherans began to arrive in considerable numbers.
These came in companies accompanied by pastors and
teachers. As a result of the coming of the great num-
bers of Germans, the Palatine immigrants were re-
quired to subscribe an oath or promise to be faithful and
bear true allegiance to the king and the proprietor, a
pledge that meant perplexity when the Revolutionary
war took place. In the petition for the establishment of
Frederick township all the signers but one wrote their
names in German. In another petition of 35 names only
eight were signed in English.

The following townships were established: Frederick,
Limerick, New Hanover, Norriton, Perkiomen-Skip-
pack, Towamencin, and Providence. This showed a substantial
increase of population, as did the erection of new mills
along the Skippack and the organization of churches in
Providence, Horsham, Methacton and New Goshenhop-
pen, near East Greenville.

The road problems afford a glimpse of the life in the
county. In the petitions schoolhouses are referred to,
showing that they, like bridges and meetinghouses, were
becoming well-recognized landmarks. Petitions for con-
firmation of roads in use for more than thirty years on
sufferance were presented to court. Disputes developed

resulting in the presentation of rival road drafts. At times several sets of viewers were appointed in succession for one road. Occasionally trouble grew out of the fact that road records had not been made properly or had been lost. Isaac Norris felt aggrieved because a road cut obliquely through his broad lands, but the oblique road is still in use. In one petition complaint is made of being "persecuted with lies and slanders by such that either do not understand or do not regard humanity or law." In one case a road was said to be kept up out of spite and not as a necessity. A Merion resident seems to have had little faith in his government, for he was unwilling to have a road cut until damages had been paid. Most of the roads confirmed were in the lower end and cross county. In the upper end, the Swamp road, the Sumneytown and Salfordville roads were laid out.

The only Indian trouble within the county, which was due to a clashing between a few workmen of the ironworks and Indians, flared up in this decade but died down without doing the harm that had been feared. More will be said of this later.

1731 In this decade patents were issued for land
to in Frederick, Limerick, Marlborough, Providence, Salford, Springfield, Towamencin,
1740 Upper Dublin, Upper Hanover, Whitpain, and Worcester. In addition many warrants were issued for which patents were granted later. By the end of the period most of the land of the county had been taken up. A petition for the establishment of Upper Hanover mentions sixty families as being settled between the townships of Salford and New Hanover. Another petition shows that there was a "great vacancy" or unsettled region between the Upper Hanover settlement and the western end of New Hanover. The settlement of Marl-

borough began about 1733 when Joseph Groff and Gabriel Shuler had lands surveyed for mill properties. Thomas Maybury, who engaged in the iron industry, acquired on a warrant of 1737, 1920 acres in the neighborhood of Greenlane, lying in Marlborough and Frederick townships. Mills were erected in Frederick and Upper Hanover in this decade. Abington supplied the lime for the new State House, Philadelphia.

Among other signs of growth of population were: Schoolhouses and churches, which were becoming more numerous; blacksmith shops, which became known as landmarks; Swedesford, across the Schuylkill between the east and west sides, which was becoming quite noted; the German element of the population, half of the people being German by 1734; the Hoppenville road laid out from Macungie in Lehigh county to Sumneytown, a road which attained national importance in the conveyance of food supplies to the troops at Valley Forge; the Schwenkfelder company of immigrants, numbering about 200 souls, who after trying to acquire a large tract of land and settle in a group, were compelled to buy small tracts separately because the available land was all cut up and held by private individuals.

The roads furnish interesting sidelights on the situation. The George McCall manor had "roads so bad that it was difficult for a horse to pass without damage." Roads from Bucks and Chester counties had to be extended wholly or partly through the county. The Morris road zigzagging through the country from Clement's mill (later Alderfer's) to Morris' mill (formerly Farmar's) was suggested in this decade, viewed and reviewed and re-reviewed and was giving the courts trouble thirty years later on account of errors and jealousies. Merion petitions stated that "ancient settlers" were shut up through want of roads and that roads in use thirty

years had been closed. The number of roads granted, viewed and reviewed shows a considerable new demand for accommodations.

The following townships were erected during the decade: Douglass, Franconia, Frederick, Upper Hanover, and Worcester.

1741 Patents were issued during this decade for
to land in Franconia, Frederick, Marlborough,
1750 Providence, New Hanover, Salford, Upper
Hanover, and Worcester. Salford was cut
up by the establishment of Upper Salford, Lower Salford, Marlborough, and Hatfield townships.

New church buildings, schoolhouses and mills were going up in different parts of the county. Muhlenberg and Schlatter appeared in the field to organize the Lutherans and Reformed into religious bodies. The Catholics established their first mission in rural Pennsylvania across the county line at Bally, Berks county, which became their missionary base for a very wide territory. Whitefield on his evangelistic tours had audiences of thousands in the German communities of Towamencin and Frederick. Muhlenberg gives a glimpse of the people settled in the county when he speaks of all phases of religious belief and unbelief and all nationalities being represented.

More roads of a distinctively local character were confirmed in this period. Some of the confirmations covered roads that wind around considerably, probably because a number of roads not necessarily in a direct line of travel were combined for purpose of confirmation.

1751 Patents were issued for land in Franconia,
to Frederick, Marlborough, Providence, the
1760 Salfords, Springfield, Towamencin, and Upper Hanover. The Providence patents were
a result of letting farmers have in their own right por-

tions of the Manor of Gilbert, still held by the Penns, which they had been cultivating on long leases.

Roads were laid out in every part of the county, showing that new sections were continually developing that needed avenues of communication with the older communities.

During this period the northwest boundary of the county was fixed by the establishment of Berks county, the line running along the northwest boundary line of McCall Manor, and extending to the Bucks county line.

In educational lines an advance step was shown by the establishment of the Boys' Boarding School in the Heebner-Antes mill of Frederick township and the Charity Schools; the latter were soon abandoned, the former became the Nazareth Military Academy. That there must have been at least some educated Germans in the colony is shown by the fact that Sauer issued a German Bible in 1743 and Franklin issued in this decade more than fifty books in German. The latter had more love for the money of the Germans than their companionship.

This was the time of the French and Indian war, of which more will be said in another connection. A few incidents may be mentioned. A Montgomery county farmer had bought a farm in Berks county at the foot of the Blue mountains. His two daughters were massacred in harvest time. At the call of the authorities the farmers supplied horses, wagons, and men to haul military supplies to Bedford. Montgomery county citizens attended the Indian treaties at Easton, Pa. A militia law for the colony was adopted during this period.

In 1751 Martin Zendler, of New Hanover, died at an advanced age. He had been one of the pioneers and served as a kind of milestone between the primitive and later periods. He used to relate that in his young

days men had to struggle in the forest for a bare living. The people were poor but they were also helpful, faithful, earnest, humble, and industrious. Then Indians strolled among them and profited by the milk, bread, and other gifts the whites chose to give them. The population grew on all sides; the raising of cattle was introduced; the cleared and cultivated fields began to yield more bountiful crops. Instead of gratitude, however, vices sprang up, drunkenness, luxurious living, and the mere pleasures of sense. Communities came to be known as dens of drunkards and murderers ("Sauf und Mordgrube").

1761 The gradual passing of the soil of the county
to from proprietors to private ownership is
1770 shown by the few patents granted for small
 tracts in Frederick, Hatfield, Limerick,
Marlborough, Providence, the Salfords, and Upper Hanover. For most of these, warrants had been issued thirty and more years ago. In Hatfield a tract of 1020 acres, which had been held intact by the Penns almost one hundred years, was cut up into ten parts and conveyed to individual owners.

At this time there were within Philadelphia county: 83 gristmills, 40 sawmills, 6 papermills, 1 oilmill, 12 fullingmills, 1 horsemill, 1 windmill, and 6 forges.

In 1767 the exports of Philadelphia were: 367,500 bushels of wheat, 198,516 barrels of flour, 34,736 barrels of bread, 60,206 bushels of corn, 6,645 barrels of pork, 609 barrels of beef, 882 tons of bar iron, 813 tons of pig iron, 12,094 hogsheads of flaxseed, and 1,288 barrels of beer. Montgomery county probably supplied a great part of this business.

Among the roads laid out or resurveyed were the Egypt road to Phoenixville, the Port Kennedy road in

Upper Merion, the Ridge road across Marlborough, Frederick, and New Hanover by way of Fagleysville to the Schuylkill river. Complaints were made that the Ridge road from Lower Providence to Whitemarsh was narrow, seldom repaired, and that there was no record of courses or breadth of road. Various other roads were laid out, as a study of the map shows.

Philadelphia had reason to fear a wood famine by this time. It was using 300,000 cords of wood annually for fuel purposes alone. This with the building needs created a problem. Commissioners were appointed by the Assembly to take charge of cleaning, scouring, and making navigable the Schuylkill river from the Blue mountains to the Delaware for boats, flats, rafts, and other small vessels. The pioneer problem of getting rid of trees to raise crops had been changed to one of providing what the farms could no longer supply.

Another evidence of the development of things in general was the springing up of stage lines. Communication was provided by these with Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Nazareth, Wilkes-Barre, as well as points to the northwest and southwest. A good deal of this traffic must have been conveyed over the roads radiating from Philadelphia through the county. Notwithstanding all this traffic there were but few bridges. The following extract relating to Main street, Norristown, pictures a general condition of the county roads and fords—"A very public road crosses Stoney Creek near the River Schuylkill in the township of Norriton just below Norris's Mill Dam and where there is very considerable declivity or fall in the channel of the said Creek, the ford being also a rocky and uneven Bottom;—These circumstances ever concurring renders it a fearful and dangerous Ford in Freshets; and inasmuch as a bridge is the only expedient that can be thought of to render the passage safe

and agreeable to travelers which might we conceive be erected for a small sum as one arch would be sufficient and the material might be had very convenient." What fording streams meant in summer time with loaded wagons and in winter time with loaded sleighs endangered by raging floods or treacherous ice it is hard to conceive for those accustomed to modern macadam roads and concrete bridges.

The county's fame was made international when one of her farmer boys, David Rittenhouse, the self-made scientist, observed the transit of Venus from his own observatory in Norriton township. The Schwenkfelders who had come into the county, beneficiaries of charitable Mennonites, had accumulated enough means to raise an endowment fund for the maintenance of schools in their midst. The Lutherans of New Hanover were old enough as a congregation to erect their fourth place of worship, a stately building still in use. On Bethel Hill the Methodists erected a place of worship made famous later by the preaching of Jemima Wilkinson, an 18th century revivalist who drew Yankees and Pennsylvanians, including some influential county families, to found Penn-Yan in New York.

1771 Patents were issued for land in Frederick,
to Marlborough, the Salfords, and Upper Han-
1784 over. Most of these were reissues based on
warrants issued many years previously. A
patent was issued in 1883 for a tract in Marlborough
on warrant granted in 1756.

Among the few road confirmations of the period was one of a road from the Egypt road in Norriton to Swedes Ford road in Upper Merion across the river channel and Barbadoes island. The erection of the dam in the river caused the roadbed to be overflowed. The inhabitants of

Marlborough, Upper Salford, Upper Hanover, and other districts petitioned court for a bridge over Swamp creek at Sumneytown. The grand jury to whom the matter was referred favored the bridge—"Yet they think as the expenses of carrying on the war and the taxes are so very high; they are unanimously of opinion it had better be postponed till a future day." The court concurred and the bridge was not built at that time. The first bridge over the Schuylkill within the county was Sullivan bridge at Valley Forge erected as a war measure.

This period covers the Revolutionary War, the establishment of the United States of America, for the study of which the pupil is referred to histories of the state and nation. The part Montgomery county played in the great change will be considered in another connection.

The county had become a compact rural community, considerably developed agriculturally and industrially. Its period of settlement, pioneer days, and beginnings was in the past. Gristmills, sawmills, fullingmills, churches, schoolhouses, stately mansions, massive barns, roads, fruitful fields, grazing cattle, marked the landscape, but there were no printing presses, no newspapers, no towns, no canals, only a few bridges, no turnpikes, no postoffices, no county seat, no prison, only one public library, two stage lines, thirty-five churches—none of the conveniences and luxuries that make modern life so comfortable and enjoyable. But Montgomery, hitherto a part of a nationally important county, stood at the threshold of becoming a self-existent, independent community. How the problem was solved and how the county grew will be considered in Chapter V.

CHAPTER IV

EARLY LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

Locating the Home

One of the first steps in building a house is to find the place where to build. The pioneers in doing this soon learned that some land could either not be bought at all or only at an advanced price because it was reserved for the proprietary family or had been grabbed by land speculators. Some, planning soon to move to other quarters, would squat at an attractive point and, avoiding the laying out of money



A PIONEER'S HUT

or the making of permanent improvements, would snatch what crops they could and await the order to pay up or move on. James Logan, agent of the Penn Family, 1725, wrote that immigrants came as bold, indigent strangers who seized the best vacant land without any legal war-

rant, rarely proposing to purchase, alleging that they came in response to appeals for colonists and offer of superabundance of land. Many of these made out well, paid for their land and became influential citizens. In deciding the question of location careful consideration was given to good drinking water, to nature of soil and ease of making clearings, to nearness of markets, to place of residence of kin, acquaintances, and those using the same language.

Pioneer Dwelling Places The location of the future plantation and home having been determined, the providing of a place to eat and sleep, of shelter from heat and cold, from rain and snow and animals that might endanger life received first consideration. Occasionally unmarried men toiled alone in summer on their future farms, putting up buildings and raising crops and in winter time hiring out in older settlements to earn cash and get experience. In somewhat thickly settled sections neighbors could afford a temporary home while the primitive shelter was being provided. The first lodging place, crude and simple, might be a tent, an overhanging rock, or a widespreading tree, a campfire by night protecting the sleepers. Unassisted the lonely backwoodsman could with a few tools, perhaps brought from the homeland, dig a cave or cellar by the hillside, roof it over with branches of trees, leaves, grasses and well-tamped ground.

Building a hut required more time, skill, and labor. It meant the planting in the ground of two upright forked poles, the placing of a ridgepole in the forks, the slanting of slabs or young trees against the ridgepole on three sides, the making of a roof of ground, the hanging of a blanket or a few hides across the fourth side. Log dwelling houses by the hearty co-operation

of friendly neighbors could be put up in a few days. To build and furnish a house in some measure approaching our modern dwellings, called for the cutting, sawing and seasoning of the lumber, the burning of the lime, the manufacture by hand of doors, sashes, mouldings, etc., perhaps the making and burning of bricks, the fashioning of furniture with crude and primitive tools and appliances. The increase of the conveniences of society, the



EARLY LOG HOUSES

specialization and centralization of labor made the erection of buildings easier and simpler but also more expensive. The buying of a house by catalogue number, like a pound of sugar, a piece of calico, or a toy for a child, was many years in the future.

As circumstances permitted or necessitated buildings to protect farm animals and implements and to provide a storage place for grain and fodder were erected.

Clothing The dress of pioneer backwoodsmen was nat-
the urally plain and simple. Necessity often com-
Body pelled them to make use of the untanned skins
 of the animals they trapped or shot with
which to make clothing and shoes. It cannot have been
a very pleasant experience in winter time to step from
a warm bed, temperature at zero, and slip into clothes of
skins frozen stiff, which had to be thawed out by the
heat of the body. The making of homespun clothing, by
no means a simple or easy task, soon followed. To clear
and plow virgin soil, to raise the flax, to pull the plants,
to remove the tiny seeds from the boll, to ret and brake
the woody part of the stalks, to scutch and hatchel the
glossy fibres, to spin and weave the slender threads, to
full and color the woven fabric, to cut and sew the cloth
into garments, however ill-fitting, all by members of the
same family, called for great skill, training and knowl-
edge, even though the workers were uneducated. This
era of homemade clothes reached far beyond the forma-
tion of the county in 1784. Linsey-woolsey, woolen,
and cotton goods gradually came into use and the com-
munity shoemaker and tailor with tools, goods and oft-
told jokes softened the primitive hardships.

The In preparing her daily meals the pioneer
Daily housewife could have recourse to the fish in
Bread the streams and to the game of the forest,
 both much more plentiful than now. Wild
pigeons flew in flocks so large that they obscured the sky
for hours and so low that they could be hit with sticks.
Trout teemed in brooks that have long since run dry.
Shad made their annual trips up the smaller streams be-
fore the dams and poisons of civilization interfered. Mills
being at first but few, crude and far between, flour either
could not be had at all or only of very inferior quality.

Homemade devices for crushing or grinding the grain had to be resorted to. Cooking and baking were done on the open hearth. Modern kitchen conveniences, kitchenettes and kitchen cabinets were not thought of.

Means of Education The available means of mental improvement prior to the establishment of the county were the few books brought by immigrants from the fatherland, elementary schools, a few libraries, an occasional debating club, community singing schools, ornamental illuminated pen work, primitive and



MANUSCRIPT VOLUMES, TRANSCRIBED AND BOUND IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY

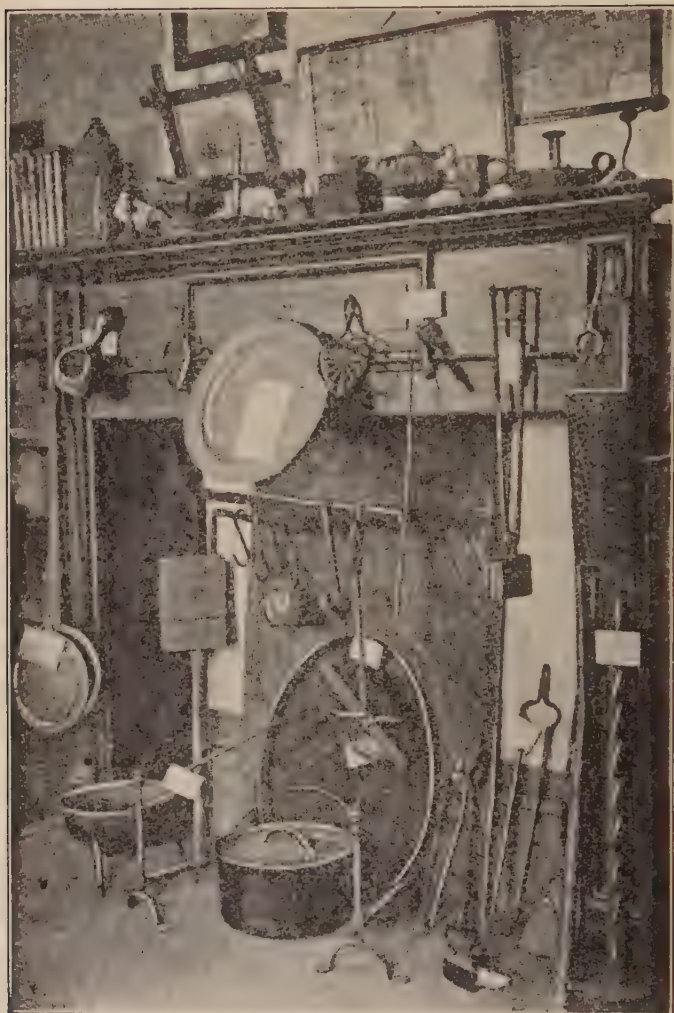
diminutive newspapers, books published in the colony. Among the obstacles to a good education were: the necessary struggle for a living, the sparseness of population, the scarcity of good teachers and text-books, the absence of a system of general public education, the low valuation

placed on education, the quenching of zeal for higher things in general by the lower. In most cases church-building and schoolhouse grew up side by side, the latter in many cases even antedating the former. The schoolhouses, many octagonal in shape, had homemade desks ranged along the walls; high backless benches from which dangled the legs of the rising generation; a large woodstove centrally placed, roasting those close by and letting others shiver; pens carved from quills; ink made of soot or pokeberries; the Bible as the great text-book; neither slates nor supervisors. Those financially able paid the tuition of their own children, the township that of the poor families. In some cases children, insufficiently fed or clothed, came from humble hovels, four, five miles through pathless woods or drifted snow to learn their A, B, C's side by side with men old enough to be their fathers. Some of the teachers knew little more than the pupils; others were the local ministers, university-bred men. What it meant to be a teacher then in at least some cases is shown by what was expected in 1750 of the teacher of the Trappe school. He was to be examined in reading, writing, arithmetic, organ playing, English, Christian doctrine, and conduct, and was to enter the names of the children in the church records. He was to receive annually per child one dollar and half a bushel of grain, in addition also two annual church collections, and to enjoy free dwelling in the schoolhouse and the use of a piece of land.

Early The trite saying, the farmer feeds the world,
Indus- forever true, is forcibly illustrated in the lives
tries of all early backwoodsmen whose primary
 life purpose had to be to provide food and
clothing for themselves and their families. Farming
was then and there the great fundamental industry.

All the learning of the professor who regretted that he had not spent his life in studying the dative case would not have saved him from hunger and nakedness. Before the growth of population made specialization of work possible the saying, "root, hog, or die," held true. To raise food crops in virgin soil without plow, harrow or wagon was a problem many had to solve. Plows with wooden mouldboards, harrows with wooden teeth, wagons with wheels of three-inch plank sawed from the end of a log, harness made mainly of straw and rawhide, thrashing and winnowing floors of well-packed soil, storage bins on the garret of log-built dwelling houses, taking a bag of grain for flour to the mill five or ten or fifteen miles away, the many necessary processes to transform the flax or wool into clothing, bedding or grain bags were familiar sights all over the county in early days. Some of these processes lingered long into the nineteenth century. To trace the infancy, growth, decay and disappearance of industries would require volumes. That they did spring up early is shown by the following list of articles exported from the port of Philadelphia fifty years after its founding, many of which must have been products of the county: Wheat, Indian corn, flour, tobacco, hemp, flax, oats, rye, linseed, buckwheat, rice, oil, beef, pork, bacon, fish, butter, sugar, molasses, wine, rum, salt, cheese, cider, lard, tallow, soap, candles, indigo, ginger, beeswax, starch, beer, pig iron, staves, hoops, headings, shingles, tar, pitch, turpentine, copper ore, skins and furs, potash, leather, bricks, marble, old iron, cedar, oak, and walnut timber. These in turn implied machinery, utensils, appliances and operations.

In addition other trades and industries flourished. Potters were making pots, plates, dishes, jugs, basins,



HOUSEHOLD UTENSILS

toys, what not—the tulip ware that brings fancy prices nowadays. Ministers even operated stills, sold whisky, and employed slaves to increase their riches. As an industrial accompaniment, the holding of negroes and Indians in slavery, sanctioned and even enforced by the British government, early gained foothold in the county. Governor Keith at death owned seventeen slaves. Slaves toiled at the Greenlane Iron Works from its beginning to about 1775. At the same time members of Plymouth Meeting held seventeen slaves. Rev. George Michael Weiss held a slave negro family of ten, ranging in age from 44 to 4 years, valued by appraisers at £280 or about \$750, the price of a cheap auto. There were in the county 108 slaves in 1785, 114 in 1790, 33 in 1800, 3 in 1810, 1 in 1830.

Roads and Inns Montgomery county has always had its road question, the improvement of roads, shadow-like, following without overtaking industrial development. To open roads at one time meant to cut and clear Indian trails of trees, blackberry and hazel bushes, scruboak, weeds and thorns, to remove stumps and rocks in order that carts and wagons instead of pack horses might pass along. Some roads were used many years “upon sufferance” or without due legal proceedings, to be closed by fences perchance without any notice from the landowner to the great disgust and inconvenience of the traveling public. Roads were often laid out along boundary lines between adjoining farms, each farm giving a part of the six per cent allowance for roads in the land patent granted. Opening of roads under direct court supervision occasionally led to controversy and ill-feeling among neighbors. Prior to the turnpike era parts of even the leading roads were often in an almost impassable condition because of streams, stones,

stumps and sloughs. Horses, dragging bodies and burdens through knee-deep mud, snailed along two or three miles an hour. Even Philadelphia was so often miry, carts were so often stalled that it had the nickname, "filthy-dirty." Some roads like the later Lancaster turnpike grew into noted national institutions. The history of some roads is marked by periods like these: the virgin forest, the Indian trail, the packhorse path marked by blazed trees, the narrow uncertain cartway, the village street, the macadamized town highway, and the concreted city street, teeming with pedestrians, autos, rushing electric cars, smooth enough to tempt dancers and roller skaters, and firm enough to bear the monstrous and ponderous freight trucks. On account of the miry condition of what has long been known as Germantown Avenue large country stores sprang up in Germantown, where the Upper End farmers could exchange their grain, butter and eggs, cured beef and hams, and other produce for fish, plaster, seeds, and general store goods for the rural merchant. A better avenue caused the decay of these stores.

Inns, springing up as soon as the traffic along the most frequented roads assured adequate income, became with the jolly innkeeper in time almost indispensable in pioneer communities. Inn and storeroom were often found under the same roof mutually promoting each other's business. The proprietor might at the same time also be the country squire and scrivener. Here the neighbors met to buy household necessities, and, sitting on dry-goods boxes, discussed the great questions of the day. Stagecoaches would make a brief stop, Conestoga wagons would park for the night and drovers would pen their cattle for a needed rest. Travelers could tell of inns that had bugs and dirty attendants, but gave neither candles

nor sleep. Inns had their gaudily painted swinging signboards, creaking dolefully on high posts, bearing names like Waggon, Wagon and Horse, Black Horse, Sorrel Horse, White Horse, Red Lion, Bird-in-Hand, The Stag, Fox Chase, King-of-Prussia, The Trooper, Rising Sun, Blue Bell, Wheel Pump, Square and Compass, Seven Stars, Blue Anchor, The Rose, Barley Sheaf, New Moon, Yellow Ball, Crooked Billet, and Broad Axe. Paintings appropriate to the name graced the signboard, which gave names to later villages and postoffices.



CONESTOGA WAGON, LANCASTER, PA. ABOUT 1910

*The Life
on the
Road*

These country roads and inns together witnessed an ever-changing, unceasing ebb and flow of human life quite different from that of today—farmers and farmers' wives going to market with their produce securely anchored on pack horses; monstrous charcoal wagons; loads of powder, iron, iron ore, lumber, cordwood; dealers in live stock driving along their herd of cattle, horses, swine, sheep or geese; bride and groom on the way to the country parson, riding on horses side by side or even tandem on the same horse; young and old, male and female, gay and grave, each on some mission bent, walking along. A

winding string of springless Conestoga wagons, some with buxom lasses bobbing about on the springy seat cityward bound to visit their cousins, to see the sights, and do the family shopping, would draw up to the friendly wayside inn. Quickly the wagons are parked, the horses stabled and fed; later the barrooms become overcrowded with mattresses, coverlets and robes of the wagoners who play tricks, rehearse stale stories, or snore a hallelujah chorus, anxious to resume their journey on the morrow. Possibly a distant rumble or the tooting of a horn would announce the approaching stagecoach laden with weary, dust-begrimed passengers. Soon the briskly trot-



AMERICAN STAGE WAGON, ABOUT THE YEAR 1800, AND THE
"SPREAD EAGLE INN" ON THE LANCASTER PIKE

ting teams halt in front of the regular stopping and exchange inn; passengers alight to relieve their limbs, the driver crawls down from his high seat, hostlers hustle the foaming horses away to make room for fresh ones, drivers and passengers resume their places, the whip is

cracked and stage with passengers disappears at the bend of the road.

Playing the Lottery The great Nazarene Teacher taught that one ought to give expecting nothing in return. Men in pioneer days, as in our day, tried to get, giving nothing in return. The lottery was one of the ways of doing this. In 1735 the proprietors of the province proposed to sell 100,000 acres of land by lottery at £2 per acre. Of the 7750 tickets, 1293 were to get the land and 6457 were to be blank. In 1759 a law was passed declaring all lotteries whatsoever, whether public or private, "common and public nuisances and against the common good and welfare," and providing fines. In 1765, only six year later, the same authority, "desirous of aiding and encouraging such charitable and pious designs," passed a law providing lotteries for churches in the cities of Philadelphia, Carlisle, York, Reading and in other places. In subsequent years other churches were similarly favored. The erection of school buildings, the improvement of roads, the navigation of the Schuylkill river, the bridging of streams and the construction of piers to secure river banks were promoted by like legislation. Some of these were in Montgomery county. It is easy to imagine how prevalent the lottery spirit was when legislators and church fathers gave their sanction to the public lottery, and how many other games of chance must have received like countenance from the community.

Pioneers as Citizens The pioneer as citizen had varied duties and privileges; some of these being local were disposed of without leaving home. Legal business, trials of criminals, settlement of estates, recording of deeds and mortgages had to be attended to at the county seat, Philadelphia. The primi-

tive court house stood in the middle of the main street, Market, at Second street, where at first the town bell swinging on a high mast announced the important events. The basement as auction room was reserved for millers, weavers, and stocking makers. Close by stood the public pillory and prison cage, westward the market house. On the east side was the conspicuous, historic stairway. Upstairs was the court room and voting place. Here for many years Montgomery county voters ascended the steps on the north side, cast their ballots and descended on the south side. At one time the wave of faction ran so high that sailors and coopers rough-housed the rural voters for control of the stairway and thus of the election—an act that led to arrest and court trial. From these same steps governors spoke, politicians harangued, ministers preached. Later the elections were held at the State House, Sixth and Chestnut streets.

Much community business of a legal nature was disposed of by the country squire. David Schultz, an Upper End surveyor, conveyancer and general business and utility man, in his almanac diaries speaks of plowing, sowing, reaping, thrashing, sheep shearing, butchering, hauling wheat to market, applebutter boiling, flaxbraking, hauling logs, erecting stables, building fences, digging wells; surveying roads, farms and townships; neighbors moving to Maryland or the Carolinas; quit-rents and ejectments; agreements, wills, bonds and letters written; settling estates and adjusting disputes; rains, snows and thunder storms; things interesting and instructive in foreign lands; wars and rumors of wars; Indian troubles, murders and massacres; comets seen; the meaning of the Indian terms: the death of a rag collector; attending elections in Philadelphia, etc. A few

of the many strange and unusual laws and regulations that faced citizens of the county in early days were: punishment by public beating on the bare back, marking the poor on the shoulder, imprisonment for debt, auctioning the care of poor annually to the lowest bidder, import duty on slaves, the public pillory, punishing counterfeiting by cutting off the ears.

*At Home
and
at Play* A glimpse into the home and home life of common, well-established families, pioneer days being ended, may be of interest and profit. Rev. Mr. Doddridge pictures things thus:

“These original settlers had to be their own mechanics, for all which they needed. The homony block and hand-mills were found in most of their houses. The block was hollowed out at top by burning, and the play of the pestle ground the corn. Sometimes they used the sweep of sixteen feet to lessen the toil, in pounding corn into meal for cakes and mush. At some places where they had saltpeter caves, they made their own gunpowder by means of these sweeps and mortars. In making meal they also used a domestic contrivance called a grater; it was a plate of roughly perforated tin, on which they grated their grain. The hand-mill was another and a better contrivance, made with two circular stones, the under one being the bedstone, and the upper one the runner. These were placed to run in a wide hoop or band with a spout for discharging the meal. The runner was moved by a staff passed through an upright affixed in the runner.”

Another interesting picture is thus portrayed by the late Rev. J. F. J. Schantz:

"It was not difficult to make an inventory of the contents of the dwelling house. The large hall had but little furniture besides a long wooden chest, and a few benches or chairs. The best room of the house on one side of the hall contained a table, benches and later chairs, a desk with drawers, and the utensils used on the special hearth in heating the room. In the rear of the best room was the Kammer (bedroom) with its bed of plain make, also the trundle bed for younger children and a cradle for the youngest, a bench or a few chairs and the chest of drawers. The room



CRADLE, ROCKER, ETC., MUSEUM OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

on the other side of the hall was often not divided, but when divided the front room was called the living room, with table and benches or plain chairs, with closet for queensware and the storage of precious parcels, with the spinning wheel, with a clock as soon as the family could possess one, and with shelving for the books brought from the

fatherland or secured in this country. The kitchen contained the large hearth, often very large, with rods fastened to a beam and later an iron bar, from which descended chains to hold large kettles and pots used in the preparation of food; the tripod also on the hearth to hold kettles and pans used daily by the faithful housewife; the large dining table with benches on two long sides and short benches or chairs at each end; the large table for the use of those who prepared meals for the family; extensive shelving for holding tin and other ware; benches for water buckets and other vessels and the long and deep mantel shelf above the hearth on which many articles were placed. The second story contained bedrooms, beds, tables, chests."

Clocks and watches were rare and large. The good housewife or hired girl gave a welcome musical call for dinner on a yard-long tin horn or on the curiously-shaped conchshell, while the faithful dog whined a sad accompaniment. If the plowman failed to hear the notice the weary horses did and whinnied in joy. Newspapers were small, stale and slow in coming. The few advertisements would tell, among other things, of stray cattle, runaway slaves, of Germans for sale and of faithless redemptioners. Each colony had its own money and money valuation for the English pound. Although Pennsylvania devised a safe paper currency, barter was often conducted in terms of bushels of wheat. To go visiting meant a long tramp, or painful horseback ride, or a tedious bouncing around on springless Conestogas. Happily the boys did not have to go to the post office for big sister's love letters, for there were no post offices. Chickens roosted on the trees, the year round, boughs bending under their weight,

the faithful dog keeping watch. Mothers and daughters made the spinning wheels hum to finish the winter task by Candlemas, when spinning was to cease and supper was to be served by daylight. Father as weaver made the busy shuttle fly back and forth. Young branded cattle ran wild in the woods, revealing their whereabouts by the tinkling of the bell suspended from the neck. The smoke lazily curling over the treetops showed where the woodman was converting wood into charcoal. Even then some saintly fathers grieved over the hurry and bustle of



TOOLS OF FLAX INDUSTRY, MUSEUM OF THE MONTGOMERY
COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

the times consuming strength of soul and body. What would they say of the present-day hustling? Seven-foot snows fell, reaching the eaves of the loghouses. In some cases correspondence with the relatives and friends in the homeland was kept up, forty, fifty years after the

migration, twenty or thirty letters going forward in one package. When vessels arrived people went aboard for mail. Letters undelivered were taken to a public place, the Coffee House, where they would be called for.

Strong liquor was drunk at public sales, at weddings and funerals, in haymaking, in harvest fields and wherever else the work was strenuous and it even found its way into toasted bread. If drunkenness resulted, long forgotten terms were applied to the unfortunate one.

Want of space forbids our lingering on the marriage revelries and funeral feasts, on butchering and soap-making, on applebutter, corn-husking, sleighing and dancing parties, on horse racing, cock-fighting, bull baiting, bear baiting, of slack-rope and tight-rope dancing, of games of fortune, of the visits of the cobbler, tailor and school teacher, and the bundle-burdened peddler, of mother's household remedies and the garnered medicinal plants in the garret, of the fabled witches and ghosts, of the superstitions and charms as implicitly believed in as the Good Book itself, of St. Nicholas, and New Year's shooters.

*The
Religious
Life*

The persecutions in the fatherland which made the emigrant seek a new home had produced a strong religious faith. The offer of religious liberty in addition induced persons of the most varied faiths to seek asylum in Penn's colony. The result was that a condition peculiar to Pennsylvania was developed which has meant a great deal in the religious world. One writer, dwelling on this, says: "Colonial Pennsylvania, where Penn's inviolable guarantees of boundless liberty of conscience brought together an aggregation of fanatic and fantastic characters which converted his fair colony into a religious wilderness, where zealots of every description charged themselves with the task of further devastation and dis-

order" (E. J. Wolf). In spite of these seeming disadvantages Montgomery county in conjunction with other counties similarly situated demonstrated to the world that religious liberty could not only be believed, but also be lived; that it was not a matter of mere toleration or theory, but of inherent, inalienable right. The lives here lived helped to demonstrate to the world the beauty of religious liberty, and furnished the unanswerable argument that religious liberty should be made a part of the constitution of the United States, and this was brought about under unfavorable conditions. The daily toil for food, raiment and shelter, the free life of the backwoods, the want of earnest Christian ministers caused decay and death of faith. It is of record that there were righteous souls among the pioneers who, being concerned for the welfare of God's spiritual kingdom, sent to their old homes earnest pleas for righteous preachers, saintly prayer books, catechisms and A, B, C books. Occasionally preachers were in the pulpits who should have been in jail. Of certain ministers it was said one seeks souls, another the crowd, the third bread, the fourth a wife. The pulpit language in German communities was termed by one man "a miserable, broken, fustian Salmagundy of English and German." In Lutheran churches alone half a hundred different catechisms and hymn books were in use. Church organs and stained-glass windows were a rare luxury. Muhlenberg reported early in his ministry that within five years half of the membership of his churches had been taken away by death or removal to the frontier in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. The minister's pay was not always in coin of the realm. One of these saintly, hard-working pastors wrote: "One man brings me a sausage, another a piece of meat, a third a chicken,

a fourth a loaf of bread, a fifth some pigeons, a sixth a rabbit, a seventh some eggs, an eighth some tea and sugar, a ninth some honey, a tenth some apples, an eleventh some partridges, etc." The early church fathers of necessity led a very strenuous life, traveling under exacting conditions over very wide stretches of sparsely-settled country, founding churches, teaching the children, educating the oncoming ministry of young men, adjusting disputes, setting the erring aright, while ministering as well to the wants of the body. Some carried with them medicines and the lancet, and knew many



NORRITON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

of housewife's home remedies, thus anticipating the modern medical missionary.

The early church buildings were rudely constructed of unhewn logs, with backless, uncomfortable seats of

puncheons, floor of the native soil or brick, without stoves, carpets, or cushions, organ or piano; sometimes even without a roof, because of poverty of the membership. One reads of bats dropping on the worshippers' heads, and of snakes looking on from chinks in the church wall. Under more favorable conditions churches were built of stone, seats had high, straight backs, with doors at the end of the pews, galleries on three sides



PULPIT AND PEW, LUTHERAN
CHURCH, TRAPPE

with uncomfortable seats, increasing the capacity of the church. Here the young men sat to keep an eye on the young ladies, who on the opposite side on the main floor, worshipped God and watched the boys. Two square blocks of pews at each side faced the goblet-shaped pulpit, which was hardly wide enough to hold a pot-bellied

pastor, and which was supplied with sounding board a few feet over the head of the preacher, who entered by a narrow spiral stairway. The story is told that at one time a minister with goblet and gospel tumbled to the floor, upon which he expressed himself in Pennsylvania-German, "There lies your old rattle-box" (rabbelkaste). In the absence of church buildings services were held in the school house, in barns, or under wide-spreading trees. Going to church meant putting on clean homemade clothes, threading one's way past thorns, weeds and underbrush of the primeval forest, wading streams, edging along the dusty or muddy roads, some carrying their shoes to save the sole until the building was sighted; some, both men and women, without shoes and all without umbrellas, rubber overcoats or overshoes. Husband and wife at times came mounted tandem on the faithful plowhorse. If the worshippers came to church too soon, or the preacher too late, men might be seen sitting on the fences or welcome benches, whittling, chewing and discussing the weather, the crops, stale European news or the political situation, often serious and trying. Thanks to the peace principles of Penn, the pious pioneers did not stack their guns beside the church door to save their souls to this world while preparing to go to the next, preferring to send their neighbors instead. In winter time the worshippers came in their rude sleighs, bringing heated planks, or sandbags or footwarmers bought in the city to keep their feet from freezing while their souls were being warmed up in the unheated building. Fires were built outside the church building to warm worshippers. When no church services were held pious parents would conduct family worship. Father, mother, children, hired help would meet, hymns were sung, postils read, prayers repeated, while the young wished for the ending of the services when they would

be allowed quillpen and pokeroot ink to copy in imitation of the teacher's illuminated ornamented penwork religious sentiments, or design impossible animals with equally impossible colors.

Pondering things like these pertaining to the early life of the county one may ask the question when and where were the good old times the fathers suggest?



OLD IRONSIDES

Locomotive built by Baldwin, 1832

CHAPTER V

THE FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTY

Four Groups of Data We have seen how Montgomery, as part of the parent county, Philadelphia, was acquired, settled, and developed. A study of its erection and growth as a separate county is the object of this chapter. The historical data will be grouped under four subheads: The Turnpike Period, 1784 to 1814; the close of the second war with Great Britain; the Canal Period, 1815 to 1847, the close of the Mexican War; the Railway Period, 1848 to 1884, the completion of a century of county history; the State Highway Period, 1885 to the present.

The means of communication are a fair test of the business and social advancement of a county. Distinct periods of expansion in the county's progress are indicated by the building of turnpikes, railways, and State highways. These improvements, though originally opposed by some men, were demanded by the growing business and social activities of the community and in turn fostered them and proved themselves indispensable.

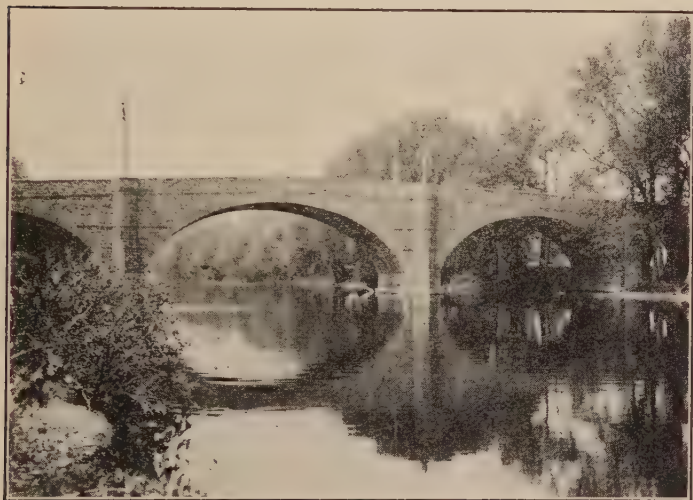
1784 to 1814 The distance to the county seat where alone certain classes of business could be transacted, the steady growth of population, and the proper adjustment of taxation were among the causes that induced the people of the upper end of Philadelphia county to petition Assembly a few years prior to 1784 for the erection of a new county. About the same time a movement was started to secure the establishment of a county out of parts of Berks, Chester, and Philadelphia counties, with the county seat

at Pottstown. Like unsuccessful efforts were made a number of times afterwards. The act establishing Montgomery county was passed, after several years of skirmishing and discussion, September 10, 1784. Soon thereafter the county machinery was set in motion; gradual and healthy growth has been the good fortune of the county ever since. The first Court, an Orphans' Court, was held at Trappe, December 1st, 1784. The first regular Court of Quarter Sessions was held at the house of John Shannon, December 28th, 1784, the location of whose residence has been questioned by writers. The first Court House and Prison in Norristown were erected 1787. The Court House on the public square faced Main street; the Prison stood where the present Court House is located. The county was originally subdivided into three election districts which during this period became thirteen.

The great amount of traffic to and from the frontier and the adjacent counties, centering in Philadelphia and radiating in part over Montgomery county, necessitated the building of substantial roads. The first charter for a toll or turnpike road in the United States was issued in Virginia, 1772, although the first road building under this charter was not undertaken until 1785. The first turnpike road in Pennsylvania was built from Philadelphia to Lancaster, crossing the southeastern part of Montgomery county. This was completed in 1796 at a cost of \$7,500 a mile—\$13,000 according to one authority. Other county turnpikes of the period were the ones to Collegeville (including the building of the Perkiomen Bridge), Willow Grove, Springhouse, and Bethlehem. In constructing these, old roadbeds, confirmed many years previously, were

in most cases made use of. In some instances the road was relocated and the grade changed.

Bridges across the Schuylkill were built in 1810 at Pawling's (now Perkiomen Junction) and Flatrock. The latter was swept away by a freshet in 1824 and rebuilt. Swept away again in 1850, it was not rebuilt.



PERKIOMEN BRIDGE, COLLEGEVILLE

Canals that had been suggested by William Penn himself and had been under consideration for some time past received increased attention during this period. In 1792 an act was passed by the Legislature authorizing a canal from Norristown to Philadelphia. Money was raised, excavations were made, but the enterprise ended in failure. In 1791 a company had been chartered to connect the Schuylkill and Susquehanna rivers by canal and slackwater navigation.

These two companies were united in 1811 as the Union Canal company by whom the canal was finally built.

The county saw the establishment of the carriage works at Hatboro and the opening of the copper mines at Shannonville (Audubon of to-day) that gave employment to 200 men in 1852. These mines were finally abandoned six years later. Lumbermen organized a



"THE TOWN OF NORRIS" AS IT APPEARED ABOUT 1835

trust in 1810 to regulate the price of lumber, which was discontinued in 1824. The Bank of Montgomery County, the first in the county, was chartered in 1814. Farmers continued to do some of their marketing on horseback in Norristown. Flour varied in price from twelve dollars a barrel in 1796 to four dollars a barrel in 1821. In 1795 the county had 96 gristmills, 61 sawmills, 4 forges, 6 fullingmills, and 10 papermills. The county acquired in 1806 a farm of 265 acres in Upper Providence and established a county home for the poor, thus changing its method of providing for the poor by

farming them out, township by township, for care and keep to the lowest bidder.

Academies were established in Moreland (Loller Academy), in Lower Merion (Lower Merion Academy), Upper Merion (Union School), and in Upper Hanover (Hosensack Academy). Loller Academy was the thirty-fifth academy chartered by the State since its formation. A library was organized in Abington, 1803, that was incorporated three years later. The Whitpain Library Association was incorporated in 1818. On the last Saturday of 1922 its sole surviving member conveyed the library to the Whitpain High School and Alumni Association. The Pottstown Library Association was incorporated in 1810.

The first post-office within the county was established, 1793, at Pottstown. Three years later there were only thirty-three post-offices within the entire State. In 1799 the Norristown post-office published a list of letters held for persons residing, among other places, in Montgomery, Moreland, Lower Merion, Horsham, and Upper Merion townships. By the end of the period the following places enjoyed the honor and convenience of having post-offices: Hatboro, Horsham, Jenkintown, Norristown, Pottsgrove, Sumneytown, Swamp Churches, Whitemarsh, Willow Grove and Trappe. Two newspapers made their appearance at Norristown during this period, The Herald, 1799, and The Register, 1800. Norristown as the county seat enjoyed a healthy growth. In 1795 it had ten buildings, including a jail, a court house, three inns, and a few farmhouses. By 1812 it was ready to become a borough, less than forty years after the decision was made to locate the county seat in Norriton township.

1815 The growth of population is shown by the
to steady increase of the number of election dis-
1847 tricts, new ones becoming necessary almost
every year. The number of post-offices in-
creased from eleven in 1819 to twenty-nine in 1832, and
fifty-nine in 1851. Frederick township had its first post-
office in 1837. The Merions, rich and populous to-day,
did not enjoy local post office privileges before 1830. The
postage rates for single letters, payable by the recipient,
ranged from eight to twenty-five cents, depending on the
distance.

Increased attention was paid to roads and bridges. A State road was laid out in 1830 from New Hope on the Delaware, across the county to the Maryland line, embodying DeKalb street, Norristown, as part of the road. Turnpike roads were completed as follows: Doylestown and Willow Grove, 1840; Sumneytown and Springhouse, 1848; Gravel Pike, Zieglerville to Greenlane, 1849; Old York Road, 1850. Bridges were built over the Schuylkill at Pottstown, 1819; at Norristown, 1829; at Conshohocken, 1833; over the Perkiomen at Perkiomenville, and over the Wissahickon in Gwynedd township in 1839.

Transportation by canal was greatly developed during this period. The canal from Reading to Philadelphia was formally opened July 4, 1824. Passenger boats from Philadelphia reached Norristown in 1822 and Reading in 1826. Forty boats loaded with coal passed through Norristown in one day in 1825. In 1830, 81,000 tons of coal were conveyed by boat. Reading shipped by canal in one day 1,201 barrels of flour, 1,425 bushels of wheat, 17 tons of iron, 149 gallons of whiskey, 365 pounds of butter, and 500 pounds of snuff. All this freight and passenger traffic made the canal and

towpaths fairly alive with boatmen, muledrivers, locktenders, coal arks, express passenger packet boats and passengers walking for a time to relieve their minds. The valleys re-echoed with the frequent, long-drawn tooting of the boatman's horn announcing to the locktender his near approach.

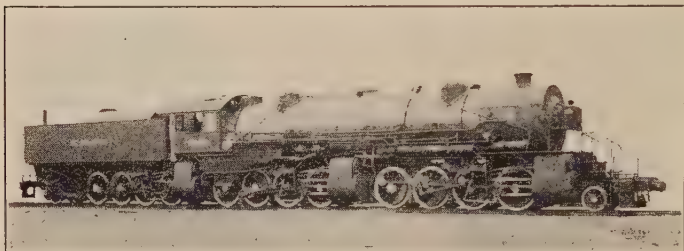
People had to be educated to the use of coal. Its introduction for domestic use was slow, and the cheap coal meant new industries along the line of the canal. In Norristown, McCreedy's Mill, the DeKalb Street Mill, Eagle Works, Derr's Marble Works, Hooven's Iron Mills, and in Conshohocken, Harry's Grist Mill and Wood's Rolling-mill began business during this period, depending more or less directly on the canal and the coal. The canal business was so brisk that increased capacity became necessary and the canal was consequently enlarged to accommodate greater boats. During the rebuilding period three hundred boats are said to have been tied up in the Port Kennedy dam at one time.



THE FIRST STEAM RAILROAD PASSENGER TRAIN IN AMERICA, 1831

A forceful argument and compelling motive for the digging of trans-State canals and a little later the building of railroads was the Susquehanna river, whose waters were carrying both products and riches from the State to Baltimore. To tap this traffic more effectively

a railroad was built from Philadelphia to Columbia which coursed a distance through Lower Merion. Railroads to Norristown and Reading were opened about the same time. The first rails, cars, and engines were, of course, primitive affairs. The rails did not resemble the massive T beams of present-day railroads. Instead, the track rested on stone blocks to which wooden rails were fastened that were protected by iron strips laid along the upper surface. For a time certain trains rendered service only in fair weather. It is related that



LOCOMOTIVE BUILT, 1914, BY BALDWIN LOCOMOTIVE WORKS;
WEIGHT 425 TONS, HORSEPOWER, MORE THAN 4000

at one of the formal openings, a great time of rejoicing and jubilee, nine passenger coaches were put to use that looked like the old stage coaches, twenty passengers within each, sixteen atop, the poor horse in shafts along the track as motive power. It is stated also that when one of these primitive trains stopped at a certain station the passengers on top walked a plank to the second story porch roof of a house along the track and thus got down to solid ground again after what must have seemed to them a most wonderful ride.

Among the industries of the period may be mentioned the silk industry, which for a time received wide-

spread attention, the grist, saw, oil, clover, powder, fulling mills, the tanneries and forges. The farmers whose business was the most important of the county sought to improve their condition by the establishment of the Montgomery County Agricultural Society.

Norristown had, in 1818, one hundred houses, five lawyers, stovemakers, innkeepers, each; four teachers, carpenters and shoemakers, each; three physicians, butchers, blacksmiths, each; two hat factories, merchant mills, magistrates, printers, cabinetmakers, plasterers, coopers, each; one woolen factory, pottery, tannery, church, academy, fire engine, clergyman, apothecary, watchmaker, mason, chair maker, saddler, milliner, barber, and stageline to Philadelphia.

Pottstown, incorporated 1816, became a publication town by the establishment of a newspaper, *The Times*, 1819. Hatboro began the publication of *The Literary Chronicle*, 1840. Sumneytown began the publication of *The Bauern Freund*, 1827. This paper was later acquired by *The Pennsburg Democrat*.

Playing the lottery, in vogue before the establishment of the county, had developed into a craze. In 1833 more than two hundred lottery offices were offering over four hundred lottery schemes in Philadelphia, authorized by New York, Virginia, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina, which tempted buyers with prizes aggregating more than fifty-three million dollars. Montgomery county farmers, like other farmers, doubtless tried their luck.

It was during this period that the State Free School system was introduced, a century and a half after William Penn as proprietor had made known his plans for universal education. Before this, the tuition of the children of the poor was free, but under such condi-

tions as to make free tuition a stigma or reproach to the beneficiaries. The system itself was its own worst enemy. Out of 400,000 children in the State between the ages of five and fifteen, 150,000 did not get within a schoolhouse during a certain year, and a large proportion of the adult population could neither read nor write. Societies were organized in 1831 to promote the free school idea. The free school law was enacted by the Assembly of 1833-34. On the vote of adoption of the system by the county out of thirty-two districts only one voted in favor of adoption. In 1835, five hundred and eighty petitions signed by 31,989 citizens of the State asked the repeal of the law, but the law was allowed to stand. By 1839 eighty-four per cent of the school districts of the State had adopted the free school system, although in Montgomery county only thirty-four per cent, eleven districts out of thirty-four, had done so. By 1843, fifteen districts had accepted and there was in the State Treasury a credit of over \$38,000 for the non-accepting districts, sums appropriated by the Legislature for their benefit. This credit with the threat that after a certain time it would revert to the general funds influenced the districts to accept the law.

Early school expenses compared with the present were very low, as a study of statistics will show. According to a school tax duplicate 140 citizens in a certain district paid a school tax of \$20.46, or at the rate of 14½ cents each. Of these twenty-eight paid less than ten cents each. In 1831 the teacher's salary in another district was two dollars per pupil for a term of seventy-two days. Of another district it is said that at times there was no school for two or three years until some wayfaring stranger came along and opened one.

About the time the free school system was adopted, Pennsylvania had two universities, eight colleges, fifty academies that were receiving State aid. Within the county four academies were receiving such aid—at Hatboro, Norristown, Pottstown, and Sumneytown. During the period the following private schools were opened; Haverford College, 1832; Treemount Seminary, 1844; Oakland Female Seminary, 1845; Freeland Seminary, 1845; Cottage Seminary, 1850.

1848 During this period great progress was
to made in various directions. It was also
1884 the period of the Civil War which meant so
much for the county during and after the
war which will be considered in another connection.

Among the new private schools of the period may be mentioned the Hill School (1851), Oakland Female Institution (1845-1880), Pennsylvania Female College (1851-1875), the first American college established solely for women and authorized to bestow degrees, North Wales Academy (1867-1892), Perkiomen Seminary (1875), now Perkiomen School, Frederick Institute (1855-1877).

The free school system became fully established in the county. The townships which had not yet adopted the system soon did so. In 1854 the office of county superintendent was created, which meant closer supervision and greater efficiency of the schools. A county superintendent made this report: "It is no uncommon thing for scholars at sixteen in winter schools to be found going over and saying to the teacher precisely the same thing in principle that they went over and said at six." In 1855 the county superintendent reported: "In many of the schools in these districts the



TYPES OF ONE ROOM SCHOOLHOUSES

Ivy Rock, Plymouth
Oak Grove, Hatfield

Eight Square, Plymouth
St. James Episcopal, Lower Providence

principal branches taught are orthography, reading, writing, and arithmetic, English grammar and geography not yet being taught in them to a very great extent and in a considerable number not at all." The following year he reported long desks and benches without support to the back in a large number of districts. In 1860 the same superintendent said: "Six years ago schools were in a loose and disjointed condition; now they are pervaded by a common life and have system and method." During the Civil War many of the older and more experienced men teachers left the profession and women teachers took their places, against whom there was widespread objection. Institutes came into vogue about this time, but the attendance was optional and many of the teachers failed to attend. 1871 the superintendent dwelt on the increased salaries, the better houses and furniture, the lengthening of the school term, the increased number of graded schools. The late Superintendent R. F. Hoffecker in his first reports beginning in 1880 dwelt on the attention given to decorating the school rooms, examinations in ungraded schools, increased interest in apparatus and professional reading, free textbooks coming into use, of all but fourteen of the teachers attending institute.

A new prison was built in 1851 and a new court house in 1852-54.

The following turnpikes were either incorporated or opened in the years indicated: Whitmarsh and Plymouth, 1848; Limekiln, 1851; Greenlane and Goshenhoppen, 1851; Norristown and King of Prussia, 1851; Plymouth and Upper Dublin, 1853; Norristown and Center Square, 1867; Penllyn and Blue Bell, 1867; Gwynedd and Blue Bell, 1867; Dublin and Souderton, 1874; Telford and County Line, 1874; Lansdale and

Montgomery, 1874; Philadelphia, Bala and Bryn Mawr, 1874.

Steam railroad building was continued during the period, the following roads being opened in the years indicated: Chester Valley, 1853; North Penn, 1856; Perkiomen, 1875; North East Branch of Philadelphia and Reading, 1872; Philadelphia and Newtown, 1872; Bound Brook, 1876; Stony Creek, 1875; Schuylkill Valley, 1884.

Growth is shown by the establishment of these newspapers: 1857, The Democrat, Pennsburg, to which was added The Perkiomen Valley Press, 1874; 1858, a German newspaper made its appearance in Zieglerville; 1870, The Reporter, Lansdale; 1875, The Independent, Collegeville; The Daily Register, Norristown; 1877, The Home News, Bryn Mawr; The Weekly Item, Schwenksville; 1878, The Independent, Souderton; 1881, The Times, Norristown; 1883, The Gazette, Ambler. The first daily county paper was The Daily Herald, established 1869.

Among other evidences of progress of the county were: incorporation of Bridgeport, 1851; Royersford, 1879; opening of Swedes Ford bridge, 1851; establishment of Norristown gasworks, 1852; recognition of women physicians.

The operation of the underground railroad, originated early in this period and ended by the Civil War, must not be overlooked. This was an effort to assist colored slaves to get away from their masters and secure their liberty by flight to Canada. Misunderstanding, personal abuses, and financial loss were the lot of those who assisted the slaves to escape.

There were in 1852 in Montgomery county not less than 30 merchant, 120 grist, 76 lumber, 8 marble, 20 paper, 12 clover and 12 (?) powder mills. Besides

these there were 15 or more iron works of various kinds, 25 large cotton factories, 10 woolen mills, 12 fulling mills, and 35 tanneries. In 1854 there were on the Perkiomen creek below Greenlane 17 gristmills, 8 oilmills, 6 sawmills, and 3 powdermills; and on the same creek



SPINNING WITH SPINDLE AND SPINNINGWHEEL

with its branches above Greenlane, 10 sawmills, 14 powdermills, 16 oilmills, in addition to furnaces, iron works and woolen mills.

Blast furnaces and iron works were put up as follows: 1843, Plymouth; 1846, Norristown and Pottstown; 1847, West Conshohocken; 1849, Stony Creek; 1850, Swedeland; 1852, Pencoyd; 1854, William Penn

and Port Kennedy; 1863, Pottstown; 1867, Edge Hill; 1869, Norristown; 1874, Glasgow; 1875, Pottstown; 1881, Plymouth; 1884, Pottstown.

1885 It will be impracticable and inadvisable to
to attempt a listing of changes that have
1923 taken place within the county since 1884.
Data on special features of the develop-
ment can be obtained without special effort.

The following facts may serve as milestones in the progress of the public school system (taken from a paper prepared by Superintendent J. Horace Landis).

1854, E. L. Acker appointed superintendent of schools at an annual salary of six hundred dollars.

1855, Montgomery County Teachers' Association organized—became the Teachers' Institute, 1868.

1860, Rev. J. W. Cruikshank elected superintendent of schools at an annual salary of nine hundred and fifty dollars.

1863, Abel Rambo elected superintendent of schools at an annual salary of eight hundred dollars, later increased to twelve hundred dollars.

1871, Clergy, the bar and other friends of education invited to take part in the discussions at the county institutes.

1878, R. F. Hoffecker elected superintendent of schools at an annual salary of twelve hundred dollars, later increased to twenty-five hundred dollars.

1879, Local institutes introduced.

1881, Lower Providence adopted a graded course of study.

1882, First public school commencement held.

1884, Cheltenham established a township high school.

1887, Final abandonment of the A, B, C method of teaching reading.



THE SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE COUNTY

Robert Cruikshank	J. Horace Landis	Abel Rambo
E. L. Acker		R. F. Hoffecker

- 1888, Lower Providence held a public school examination.
- 1889, Montgomery County Directors' Association formed.
- 1890, First district superintendent appointed. Directors' Association recommended a minimum school term of eight months—made a state law, 1919.
- 1891, Directors' Association discussed township high schools and compulsory attendance.
- 1893, Directors' Association discussed graded courses of study.
- 1903, Directors' Association discussed the centralization of rural schools.
- 1904, J. Horace Landis appointed superintendent of schools at an annual salary of twenty-five hundred dollars, later increased to five thousand dollars. Divided county institutes introduced, later made compulsory by law.
- 1908, An outline of studies for an eight grade and a ten grade course issued by the superintendent.
- 1913, A course of study for the county prepared.

The county itself has spent over \$800,000 in freeing turnpikes, only one toll road remaining. Improved roads have come to stay. The three election districts have become one hundred and fifty-two with prospect of a material increase in numbers. Instead of the lone post-office of 1793 there are considerably more than a hundred supplemented by more than half a hundred rural delivery routes. Nerves of steel crisscrossing the county annihilate space. Its private educational forces have been strengthened by the addition of Bryn Mawr College. Asylum and hospital service have been added to the county.

Half a score of years has passed since the county seat celebrated its centennial. The growth of the county business necessitated larger Court House quarters in 1902 which are again too small. Trolley and bus service facilitate travel. The seventy-five public schools have become seventy-five dozen schools. Bicycles and automobiles have compelled road betterment. Improved farm machinery and practice mark rural life. "Movies" have come to while away dull care and long evenings. Agricultural communities are acquiring city conveniences. Manufacturing plants have sprung up all over the county bringing remunerative employment at home to the young.



CONTINENTAL MONEY

CHAPTER VI

CHANGED HOME LIFE

*Modern
Conveni-
ences*

Were some mighty power to take away from Montgomery county the things that seem so essential to daily life which have come into existence since the erection of the county in 1784, it would leave house and home, barn and shop, street and field so bare and cheerless that men would feel that life was not worth living. At the beginning of the period news snailed along by horseback and stagecoach on narrow roads made almost impassable by dust and mud or rough, frozen ruts. To-day it flies at lightning speed and he who will may listen in. According to Watson, in 1800, people in Philadelphia, then the most populous and most advanced city in the United States, "were unacquainted with the use of carpets, sideboards, massive plate, gigs, barouches and coaches; they were satisfied with sanded floors, white-washed parlors and halls, rush chairs, plain chaises, corner chimneys, corner clocks and glass-door buffets and cupboards." Although these, and unnumbered other things, are not products of Montgomery county, they have entered very vitally into the life of the county and helped to make it what it is. We can not know its history without knowing something about them.

Before these things became part of life, "the era," according to Professor Clark, "was one of uneconomical methods of work, of undivided and localized production, of large profits and small sales, of high prices to society as a consumer, of little general wealth, but of comparative equality and contentment among the middle class in the community."

*Date
of
Patents*

A chronological list of patents issued to inventors will help one to form an idea as to when certain improvements were made.

It must be remembered, however, that in most cases many steps intervened between the first and final forms of patents as we know them. Among these patents may be mentioned: 1797, cast iron plow; 1803, steel pens; 1813, gas generator; 1816, manufacture of oilcloth; 1817, steam wagon; 1819, plow with adjustable point and iron suspension bridges (in England); 1822, flop-over horserakes; 1825, first passenger car and steam engine; 1830, hilling cultivator; 1833, slotted-guard fingers for mowers; 1840, magnetic telegraph; 1843, composing machine and fountain pen; 1846, sewing machine; 1849, shoe machine and paperfolding machine; 1850, cotton harvester; 1853, envelope machine; 1855, haytedder; 1858, carpet sweeper and ice elevators; 1859, ironframe school seats and desks; 1862, wash wringers; 1864, Bessemer steel; 1865, ice machines; 1868, vacuum milking machines; 1869, washing machines and springtooth harrow; 1870, hot air heaters; 1873-1892, typewriters; 1875, vacuum airbrakes and self-feeding heaters; 1876, telephone, bicycle, and passenger elevators; 1880, electric railways; 1884, gang plow and quadruplex telegraphy; 1885, first electric street railways; 1891, "movie" apparatus; 1894, first gasoline-driven vehicle; 1895, Roentgen rays; 1902, aeroplanes.

*The
Changed
Home*

H. L. Fisher, in his "Olden Times; or, Pennsylvania Rural Life, Some Fifty Years Ago," published in 1888, pictures the old home in these words: "We, almost tremblingly, ask permission to enter the different apartments, in the vain hope of recognizing some familiar

object, or hearing some familiar sound; we look in vain for the Bible and the Hymn book on the quaint old stand; or the cradle that rocked us in our infancy; we listen for the measured tick, tick, tick, or the silvery tones of the old clock, so full of mystery in the peaceful hours of life's rosy dawn. And in their stead we find things new and strange; in the little back room, where our parents slept, and we first saw the light, we find a modern-styled bed in the place of the highposts and ample curtains; no Bible-stand, family Bible, nor hymn-book; and instead of the stately old time-piece, an insignificant mantelclock, as if running by steam, clicks and clacks, as if trying to make up for lost time. In the spacious, old sitting-room, where once we heard the music of the spinningwheels on the bare, sand-scoured floor, we find the flowery carpets, the melodeon, or the cottage organ. In the kitchen, that altar of our youthful sacrifices, where once glowed the cheerful wood-fire, in the long winter evenings, the great old chimneyplace closed and dark; and in its stead the modern cook-stove, heated, tamely, with filthy coal. On the garret we find no more hanks of flax, the rolls of wool, nor the bundles of fragrant herbs; but we do find the neglected and despised, cast-off, spinning-wheels, reels and winders hidden away, down in the darkness under the eaves of the roof, as if it were a virtue to show how much the children are ashamed of the homely works and ways of the parents. And so, in sadness, we go away, musing and half doubting whether the works and ways of the present are really better than those of the past."

A hundred years ago an observer described rural eastern Pennsylvania in these words: "The whole face of the country looks German—all speak that language, and but few can speak English. Almost all their houses are of squared logs neatly framed—of two stories high.

They look to the eye like 'Wilmington stripes' for the taste is to whitewash the smooth mortar between the logs but not the logs themselves, thus making the house in stripes of alternate white, and dusky wood color. . . . The barns were large and well filled, generally constructed of squared logs or stone, but all the roofs were of thatched straw—a novelty to my eye—said to last fifteen years. Their houses were shingled with lapped shingles. Saw no stately or proud mansions, but all looked like able owners."

*The
Changed
Life*

Watson, in notes written in 1856 when he was past eighty years of age, complains about the general clatter from the crowds of people and confusion along the streets, that there is no room to turn or look around, that the tall buildings overshadowing the old buildings are crowded with numerous working tenants, that the former good houses are being displaced by newer and taller structures, that young married people without family must have their homes as large as their parents had, when full of children. "All go now on stilts." Formerly none but real country farmers sold their products in the city markets, now the stalls are held by hucksters. Men willingly pay highest prices for table board, for carriages, for clothing for show and display in everything. Habits of luxury are gaining on our people from which we must be reformed or be ruined.

Among the new things he saw were penny newspapers, the use of chloroform, ready-made clothing for gentlemen, express and omnibus service, slate roofs, building brick houses in winter, envelopes for letters, planing, jointing and grooving boards by steam power, advertising designs, flagstone paving, Belgian-block street paving, wholesale silk stores, pegging of boots

and shoes, parcel delivery by stores, undertakers for funerals, professional singers in churches, imitation of grained wood.



FOUR TYPES OF RURAL BRIDGES

In another connection Watson says: "What wonderful things do we now behold, 'not before dreamt of in our philosophy.' Railroads—annihilating space—Telegraphic wires conversing at unlimited distances—Steamers traversing every Sea—Steam-Engines and power adapted to all kinds of manufactures—Inventions

of machinery (in the patent office) to supersede almost every kind of former labor—Stereotyping everything on paper—Daguerreotypes cheapening the likenesses of everybody. Chemical developments for the supply of everything required in the arts, and opening the arcana of nature to the use of all—ascertaining the elements of combinations in nature—and so separating the parts, as to show new sources of power and profit—forecasting the fact, that in time, Water may be used as a Fire. In the meantime, the ingenuity and devices of Crime, becoming more and more apparent—and compelling new efforts of counteraction from all those who regard the progress of Religion and Virtue in the world. We see too, the great exaltation of the Anglo-Saxon race, as a species destined to carry civilization and Christianity to all the dark corners of the globe—The conquest of Mexico by us—the opening trade of California and Oregon—the discovery of gold and quicksilver—the Commerce of the Pacific and the access there to China—the opening of a Railroad across the Isthmus, and a great Rail Road across our Continent, all tend to open some grand developments of Providence, in the coming half Century—they who shall succeed us, shall behold still greater wonders!”

Educational Changes . The changes in education during this period have been in line with changes in other aspects of life. In times past schoolhouses were small and not properly built or equipped. The stoves roasted those seated close by and allowed those at a distance to shiver. The wobbly, backless, twelve-foot bench and desk meant dangling limbs, awkward twistings to go to class, testing of the pocket-knife on the soft pine desk-top, temptations to rock the bench or desk and spoil a sweet disposition or a fine pen-

manship. The untrained, unskilled teacher, with rod and ruler, quill pen and dunce cap failed to inspire and create a love of learning. The textbooks were few, crude, and not well adapted to school use. The school laws were as crude and inadequate as schoolhouses and schoolbooks. Neither was the need and value of education as evident as it is now.

Boys walked ten miles to attend Patrick Menan's school and became national figures. Abraham H. Cassel attended school six weeks when eleven years old and, in spite of this handicap, became a teacher himself and ren-



RURAL SCHOOLROOM SCENE, A HUNDRED YEARS AGO—FROM H. L. FISHER'S "OLDEN TIME"

dered history an invaluable service by the manuscripts and rare prints which he rescued from destruction. In Hosensack Academy, taught by a university-bred teacher, farmers' boys studied the dead languages and higher mathematics, calculated eclipses, transcribed theological lectures, and wrote Latin letters to each other. Schools,



VETERAN TEACHERS, 1922. FIGURES INDICATE YEARS OF SERVICE

Annie Bender, 46

Clara Bodey, 51

Jonathan Huber, 50

Sarah Fry, 51

Michael H. Beltz, 43

prior to 1884, seldom gave any attention to grammar, geography, mensuration, algebra, or the writing of essays.

In Pennsylvania-German communities the schools were conducted in the German language. The Bible, either in part or its entirety, was the universal reading book. Some of the teachers excelled in illuminative writing. This was ornamental writing with different colored inks that found its way to titlepages, bookmarks and reward cards. Though crude and inartistic, it was expressive of artistic taste, like the fancy needlework, the samplers, the decorated stoveplates and earthenware. In speaking about this, Henry C. Mercer says: (Illuminative writing) "reminds one of the ornamental writing practiced in the cloisters, a fair art of the middle ages that received its deathblow from the printing press but was kept alive in altered form by Pennsylvania immigrants from Germany to die a lingering death." Illuminative writing occasionally found its way into the cyphering books of the advanced pupils in which they wrote out their problems in arithmetic with the full solution.

*Post-
Office
Service*

The change in postal service has been wonderful. Watson relates that during the Revolutionary War period conveyances by mail were hazardous, infrequent, and expensive. Families in rural communities depended on private chances and exchanged letters very rarely. Nothing was more common than for men in the public service to write two or three times before a reply would be received. "Not long since, when postage was twenty-five cents per letter to towns in the West, or to New Orleans, the last occupying a month in transit, the tax of postage was a heavy item, when all outside of one

sheet was taxed double.—Now double letters can pass as single, to those who will write without useless envelopes.” In 1828 it took a month for the country to learn the result of a presidential election. Washington had been buried two weeks before his death became known in Boston. To-day a one-cent stamp attached to a properly addressed card and placed in the hands of the postal clerks will place at the command of the writer 232,000 miles of railway service and 434,000 miles of postroutes, reaching every nook of Uncle Sam’s possessions. Five cents will command the service of all foreign countries. The postal service acts as letter carrier, special messenger, express agent, savings bank, insurance agent, and moral censor.

Business Methods To do business a century ago involved hardships which cannot be appreciated to-day. The shipping of goods by wagon and the collection of bills were tedious and expensive. To start on horseback on a collection trip to Harrisburg, Carlisle, and beyond, or down to the Carolinas, with prospects of muddy roads, swollen streams filled with rafts of floating ice, called for a fearless heart and courage. Pack horses carried the accumulating silver received in settlement of bills over lonely mountains and through dense forests. Rude rooms in loghouse inns sheltered the collector and collected silver for the night.

Going to Market Farmers, then as now, sold their produce in the city, but customs and methods have changed greatly. A noted writer gives a picture of forsaken practices in these words:

“The road was good, the passing scenery gay,
Mile after mile passed unperceived away,

Till in the west the day began to close
And Spring House tavern furnished us repose.
Here two long rows of market folks were seen,
Ranged front to front, the table placed between,
Where bags, of meat, and bones, and crusts of bread,
And hunks of bacon all around were spread;
One pint of beer from lip to lip went round,
And scarce a crumb the hungry house-dog found;
Torrents of Dutch from every quarter came,
Pigs, calves and sour-kROUT the important theme;
While we, on future plans resolving deep,
Discharged our bill and straight retired to sleep."

Muster Days The militia law made obligatory the holding of drills by the State militia at certain stated times during the year. Those of military age who absented themselves had to pay a fine. These gatherings became occasions for a day's outing in rural sections like the county fairs of to-day. Hutchinson says: "'Battalion' and 'General Review' days of militia were the days of the year. The 'bone and sinew' then reported themselves for the annual inspection review, drill, and parade. As for uniform, each dressed according to his inclination; some wore coats and some did not; the coats were of all colors, shapes and material—from white to black, and from linen to broadcloth. Hats and caps of every style covered the heads. Some of the yeomen wore boots, some shoes, and others went barefoot. As for weapons, they were various, muskets, rifles, double and single-barrel shotguns, canes, hoop-poles, cornstalks and umbrellas—the latter frequently hoisted to protect the bearers from the rays of the sun, or occasional showers. The officers generally provided themselves with a sword, scabbard, and belt. The drill and inspection were on a par with the arms and accouterments. The generals, colonels,

and other mounted officers charged furiously on their fiery, untamed steeds, conscious that the fate of the nation depended upon them. The different regiments having formed their lines, marched through town to the parade ground or 'commons' followed by all the children old enough to accompany them. . . . Their military evolutions were executed with wonderful precision, no two obeying the word of command at the same time, unless by accident, and such a thing as keeping step was unknown. The firing, considering that there was scarcely a charge of powder in the whole line, was equally well done. After inspection, an hour's rest was given, when arms were grounded and ranks broken. From the numerous hucksters who always thronged the field on these occasions, plentiful supplies of lemonade, small-beer, Monongahela whiskey, brandy, rum or gin, were obtained by the tired soldiers, whose subsequent evolutions were somewhat tangled."

At the formation of the county only 58
Modes of riding chairs were returned in tax lists of
Travel the county, which were owned in Moreland,
Upper Dublin, Upper Hanover, Horsham,
Abington, Cheltenham, Douglass, Norriton, Plymouth,
Springfield, and Whitemarsh. The absence meant going
afoot, on horseback, or on heavy springless farm
wagons. Ladies then would ride thirty or more miles
on horseback, do their shopping, and return the next
day.

Samuel Breck, after riding in a train, wrote these words in 1833: "If one could stop when one wanted, and if one were not locked up in a box, with fifty or sixty tobacco chewers, and the engine and fire did not burn holes in one's clothes; and the springs and hinges did not make such a racket and the smell of the smoke, of the oil and of the chimney did not poison one; and if

one could see the country and was not in danger of being blown skyhigh or kicked off the rails—it would be the perfection of traveling.”

From a committee report on the “Present State of the Motive Power on the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad,” 1836, we glean the following: “From the time the engine leaves the depot, and while running the entire route, the engineer is under no control whatever, and is under no responsibility as to his conduct or the



VIEW OF POTTSTOWN, ABOUT 1835

management of the engine. His speed is regulated by his own will; the times of his stopping and starting appear to be according to his own convenience or caprice; he takes on his train such way cars as he chooses and rejects those he does not wish to take; and the farmer, or the miller whose produce has been lying in the car for days or even for weeks waiting for a chance of conveyance to market has no means of redress. His complaints are unheeded; the locomotives pass by, and his cars must stand on the siding until some engineer is sufficiently obliging to attach them to his train.”



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL BUILDINGS
 H. K. Boyer, Lower Providence
 Northern, Upper Gwynedd
 Barren Hill, Whitemarsh

CHAPTER VII

THE WORLD AT LARGE

*Ties
That
Bind* “None of us liveth to himself and no man dieth to himself.” Our recurring daily experience proves this. The story of our county richly illustrates it. A brief reference to a few illustrations of the relations that helped to mould the history of the county seems in place.

*The
Old
Home* Immigrants could not forget the homeland, the place of their birth. Letters went back and forth, thirty, forty, even fifty years after the migration. Appeals for help were made to which responses came. The wealth, the sympathy, the counsel of the old associations helped the pioneer to bear the burdens of his changed environment. They aided materially in the development of the county. The manuscripts and printed records that this relationship called forth constitute an invaluable source of information respecting the history of the period.

*Phila-
delphia* Philadelphia, the port of entry for most of the immigrants, made its impressions that remained for life either as agreeable or disagreeable mental pictures. Here the immigrant bought his needed tools and seeds and other necessities for the new home. Hither he came to cast his vote and cultivate his virtues and his vices. Hither he came when matters demanding official action by county authorities impelled.

Philadelphia, in early days, surpassed other cities of the colonies in learning, the arts, and public spirit,

It was the country's metropolis and capital city, the center of its trade and wealth in the days of the Revolution, and for many years the most populous city. Today it is one of the world's greatest workshops, its manufacturing plants representing 211 of the 246 lines of employment as classified by the census bureau of the United States. Proximity of residence to such a place means endless opportunity. The county's sons and daughters in every decade have found work, wealth, education and social standing within the city. In return the city gave direct service in developing the resources of the county.

The erection of Montgomery county naturally changed some relationships, while others remained unchanged. Trips on account of official county services centered in the new county seat, Norristown. The suburbanizing zone is widening over the lower end of the county, with its villas crowning the hilltops or hiding in shady hollows, with its well-kept roads and modern improvements. The benefits such development brings to the county, socially, economically, architecturally, politically, financially, with an occasional unwholesome by-product, form an essential element of the history of the county. To trace such development is beyond the scope of this book.

The Wars The relation of the county to the country's various wars is very interesting and instructive. The only Indian trouble within the county occurred in 1728 in the Upper End—probably at or near Pool Forge on the Manatawny. A roving band of eleven crude Shawnees on the warpath clashed with twenty white settlers. Two or three Indians were slightly wounded. The scattered settlers, greatly alarmed, left their homes, met at a

mill—perhaps at Pottstown—discussed the wild rumors, and went home. The excitement soon died.

In the French and Indian war Montgomery county lay so far removed from the frontier line between the red and white man that it escaped the horrors of the Indian massacres which befell the exposed communities. The terrors of the struggle were, however, brought home vividly to the community in various ways. Friedrich Reichelderfer, of the Upper End, for example, had moved to Albany township, in Berks county. When the war broke out he returned to his former neighborhood and only occasionally went back to his new home to attend to crops and cattle. On one of these trips the Indians made an attack. He hastened for help to a neighbor, who, to his great grief, had been slain by the Indians. He hastily returned to his own dwellinghouse to find it in ashes, one of his grown daughters dead, the other horribly mangled, although alive. A few final words, a parting kiss and the second daughter was dead.

Some of the families who had settled in the exposed region moved back and acquired homes in the more thickly settled parts. Among these were families that moved from Upper Macungie, Lehigh county, to Upper Hanover and Marlborough.

In the Fall of 1755 six hundred men, women, and children took refuge among the Moravians at Bethlehem, their houses, barns and cattle having been burned and destroyed by the Indians. Donations of grain, flour, fruit, clothing, tools, etc., were made. Among the contributors were residents of Skippack, Franconia, Goshenhoppen, Worcester and Norriton. The citizens of Montgomery raised almost \$600 to help defray the expense of placing guards along the frontier as a protection to the settlers. When Conrad Weiser issued a

call for wagons to carry forage to Raistown (Bedford), the county responded by organizing wagon companies who provided horses, wagons, and drivers to answer the call. Some of the prominent men of the county attended the Indian treaties at Easton and Lancaster and helped to defray the expenses in making presents to the Indians.

As has been shown in "Historic Highways," Pennsylvania and Virginia had known practically nothing of the art of war; they had no effective militia, no dream of military ethics. They did not know what obedience meant and had no knowledge of organization. Their liberty was license or nothing. The experiences in the years 1745-1763 prepared a nation for the hour her independence should strike.

The Revolutionary war meant for the citizens of Montgomery county active participation on the field of battle, donations of food and clothing, many bitter hardships and privations, a depreciated currency and in some instances sore perplexity. Avowed adherents of the British side, who were proclaimed traitors and deprived of their property by confiscation and sale, moved to British provinces. Farmers, contrary to army regulations, sold farm produce to the British while located in Philadelphia. If discovered they were made to suffer.

In the contest for liberty, the Irish with the Germans on the frontier, stood for independence. The eastern Germans sided with the Quakers, who were opposed to war. These, many of whom were adherents of the plain sects, were looked down upon with suspicion and were subjected to heavy fines. They declined to take up arms, but none of them on this account lost his property by confiscation. Some even who had conscientious scruples about the payment of

the fines, laid down the coin, which the officer took; the consciences were thus appeased.

The Revolutionary war meant also a longer continuous stay of Washington and the army within the



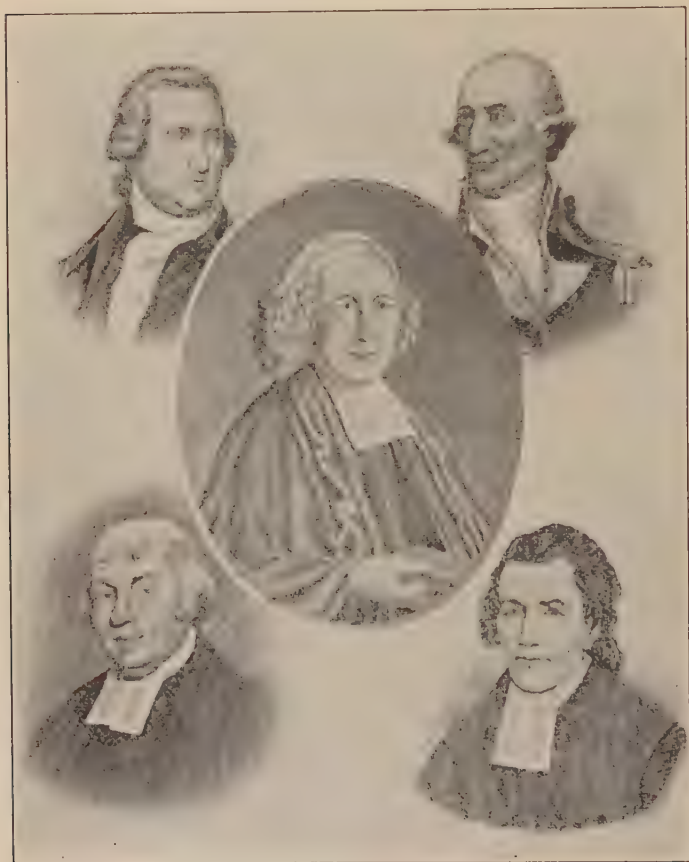
NATIONAL MEMORIAL ARCH, VALLEY FORGE

county than in any other place. It meant after the massacre at Paoli, September 20, and the crossing of the Schuylkill at points between Fatland ford and

Phoenixville, the leisurely marching of the British army through Providence, Norriton, and other townships along the Ridge road to Philadelphia. Thereupon followed the encampment of the American army at Crooked Hill (Sanatoga), September 18 to 25, and of part of the army along the road from Trappe to Evansburg; the march through Frederick township to Pennypacker's mills, September 26, and Germantown, October 3, where the battle of Germantown was fought, October 4; the retreat to Towamencin, October 8; the march to Worcester, October 8 to 16; the march to and battle at Whitemarsh; the march, December 11, from Whitemarsh, across the Schuylkill river at Swedes ford, and into winter quarters at Valley Forge; the movement of part of the army under Lafayette to Barren Hill and of the rest of the army under Washington, June, 1778. The Valley Forge encampment meant for the community the knitting of stockings, the emptying of chests of clothing and bedding, the supplying of food, the busy clatter of the mills, the rumbling of supply wagons, many little deeds of mercy and love. The presence of the armies also meant damages for which claims amounting to \$52,000 were presented. What the damages were for which no claim was made cannot be known. Local names like Muhlenberg, Miles, Loller, Porter, Stuart, Thompson, Rittenhouse, Hiester, Reed were rendered immortal by services given.

It was during the Revolutionary period that the general State militia law of 1777 was passed. This provided that the various counties throughout the state should be divided into districts, each of which was to have within it not less than 680 men fit for militia duty. Over these divisions were placed lieutenants for each city and county and sub-lieutenants for each district. Each district was subdivided into eight parts or com-

panies. Provision was also made for fines, drills by companies, and battalion parades. These drills and parades were very popular half a century later.



MUHLENBERG FAMILY

F. A. C. Muhlenberg

J. P. G. Muhlenberg

H. M. Muhlenberg

G. H. E. Muhlenberg

J. C. Kunze (Son-in-law)

Fries' Rebellion while insignificant as to numbers became very significant in view of principles involved. It interests us because some of the participants were citizens of Montgomery county. L. S. Shimmell in his "History of Pennsylvania" relates the story as follows: "Early in Adams' administration, the Federal government imposed the so-called 'house tax' which required the assessors to measure and register the panes of glass in windows. To the Germans



HOME OF FREDERICK ANTES
Headquarters of General Washington, September 21-26, 1777

the tax seemed tyrannous; and in the counties of Berks, Lehigh, Northampton, Montgomery and Bucks they resisted the enforcement of the law. From the fact that women in certain places poured hot water on the assessors, the insurrection got the name of 'Hot Water Rebellion,' while through its leader it also received the name of 'Fries' Rebellion.' John Fries, a soldier of the

Revolution, was a well-known character in the German section north of Philadelphia. He was an auctioneer and was endowed with the gift of leadership. With a plumed hat on his head, a pistol and a sword at his side, his little dog 'Whiskey' at his heels, and about sixty armed men around him, he marched from place to place, to the sound of fife and drum, and harangued the Germans on the injustice of the 'house tax.' He did this for several months before the government took any notice of it. Finally, a United States marshal arrested twelve of his men and confined them in the Sun Inn, Bethlehem. Fries went to their rescue. He appeared before the inn in March, 1799, and demanded the surrender of the prisoners. The marshal had to yield and Fries marched away in triumph." Later Fries was tried for treason, convicted and condemned to die but was pardoned by the President and led a useful life in Philadelphia.

In the War of 1812 the entire militia of southeastern Pennsylvania was summoned by governor's proclamation. Camp was established on the Delaware at Marcus Hook, below Chester. The captains of the Montgomery county companies were: Jacob Fryer, John Grosscup, William Holgate, John Hurst, William McGlathery, Joseph Sands, William McGill, ———— McLean, James Robinson, George Sensenderfer and Jacob Wentz.

In the Mexican war no Montgomery county organization took part. Neither are there records at hand showing who volunteered. W. S. Hancock, who had graduated at West Point in 1844, took part in the war as an officer and was made a brevet first lieutenant "for gallant and meritorious conduct."

The Civil war dates from the firing on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861. In response to the President's

call for troops, April 15, seven companies of Montgomery county men started from the county seat for the front. At least fifty companies of soldiers, numbering about 8000 men, who enlisted for periods ranging from ninety days to three years, were made up in the county. Some men re-enlisted. The placing of substitutes was allowed, religious bodies assisting their members in such instances wherever possible. The story of each individual has not been told and cannot be told. Of the services of the companies there are records. One regiment to which five Montgomery county companies belonged travelled by marches 1738 miles, by water 5390 miles, by railroad 3311 miles. The women organized and rendered invaluable service. By deeds done the names Hartranft, Hancock, Jones, Zook, Schall, Yost, Bean and others became household words. The names of 546 soldiers who lost their lives in the struggle are recorded on the monument in the Public Square, Norristown.

In the Spanish-American war, April 24, 1898-December 10, 1898, the soldiers volunteered; it is, therefore, difficult to collect data respecting Montgomery countians.

The history of Montgomery county in the World War has not been written. Data have been collected, but have not been edited and made available to the public. Suffice it to say that in every phase of war activity the citizens of the county rendered their due share of service, often "going over the top." In the various Liberty Loan subscriptions approximately \$35,000,000 was invested by residents of the county in the bonds issued.



BUILDINGS TYPICAL OF MODERN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION
East Greenville High School Building
Upper Dublin Consolidated Grammar School Building
Upper Moreland Junior High School Building

*The
Migra-
tions*

Whence the people of early Montgomery county came has been shown in part in another connection. Whither they went is quite a different problem. That there has been a movement out of the county goes without saying. That this was a matter of necessity is well established. There was a limit to the number of farmers who could acquire farms. In early times, before the age of steam and machinery, there was little else to do. The surplus population had to find means of subsistence elsewhere. In addition the county was in its early days a kind of recruiting station or transfer point. The county has thus been a huge beehive from which busy workers have been swarming to found new communities. Machines have made the county more of a manufacturing community. The drift of population is rather to factory centers than to untilled acres.

Montgomery countians moved into Bucks county and helped to build up present Northampton county. They became part of other counties. They swarmed into the Carolinas and the Shenandoah valley before the Revolution and helped to make up the pioneer bands who took up Kentucky and Tennessee. They moved into the Ohio country and the states beyond and after the close of the Civil war helped to populate the frontier states. Their descendants thrive on the Pacific coast and in Canada. Hans Joost Hite, at one time an extensive landholder in the county, helped to acquire and develop 10,000 acres of land in Orange county, Virginia. He drew Montgomery county families after himself. Many of the Deshlers of Columbus, Ohio, and many prominent citizens of Penn Yan, N. Y., and Easton, Penna., are descendants of two orphan boys of Worcester township. Records show that families of

the upper end migrated to North Carolina and Maryland prior to 1789.

Maryland had a population of 25,000 in 1689, 30,000 in 1710 and 130,000 in 1756. The greater part of the increase in population was due to the migration of Pennsylvanians among whom was a sprinkling of Montgomery countians. Descendants of forty immigrant families of 1734 have been traced to forty-two states, the District of Columbia, Mexico, Nova Scotia, Canada, China, India, Japan, Germany.

Hendrick Pennabecker, who was prominent in the county in early days, has over 3000 descendants scattered far and wide throughout the United States. Among these are eight clergymen, fifteen physicians, twenty-eight lawyers, three burgesses, nine assemblymen, five state senators, two county treasurers, one state treasurer, two members of constitutional conventions, one canal commissioner, one presidential elector, two members of Congress, one governor. One hundred and forty-four were engaged in the Civil war, of whom twenty-seven were commissioned officers, including two generals and fourteen colonels. Of the women three married judges, one became the wife of a United States senator and one a countess residing in Switzerland.

Among the men of national reputation who could look back to the county as an ancestral home, either on paternal or maternal side, may be mentioned U. S. Grant, Governor Porter, of Michigan; Medary, of Ohio, governor of Kansas; John Reynolds, governor of Illinois; General Custer, victim of an Indian massacre; Dr. Joseph Leidy, the Muhlenbergs, Rev. Dr. Jacob Fry, Christopher Heydrick, Chester D. Hartranft.

The children and grandchildren of one Montgomery county family were scattered in Illinois, Arizona, Ohio, California, Kansas, Iowa, Idaho, Pennsylvania.

Before the final history of the county can be written an exhaustive study of this migratory movement must be made.

Legis- What each one may do and may not do is in
lation part defined by man-made laws, regulations, and customs. These, few and simple in pioneer days, grew with the growth of the county until today it would be a very difficult problem to determine their number. Some years ago it was es-



HEADQUARTERS OF GENERAL WAYNE

September 20-26, 1777, Birthplace of John F. Hartranft, 1830, Southwest of Fagleyville

timated that a citizen of New York city was subject to 21,260 laws, including the laws of the United States, but not including the "ordinances, regulations issued by police, fire, tenement, water, street, licenses, aldermanic, dock, charity, and other departments." In ad-

dition to these public laws there are regulations of business, church and society that shape conduct. These facts help one to form a vague idea of the intricate network of laws that bind us. These shape the history of the county; citizens of the county through the vote of themselves or their representatives helped to shape them.

Busi- At one time Montgomery county was a distinct agricultural community. The farmer
ness then almost controlled the local market and produced nearly all he needed in the home or on the farm. Since that time conditions have been continually changing. Before the Declaration of Independence Philadelphia had become a busy harbor for the importation and exportation of goods of all kinds.

A hundred years ago the larger country stores offered for sale: chinaware from China, France, and England; coffee from Arabia and the West Indies; cocoa from South America; alum from Sweden and Germany; cinnamon from Ceylon; cloves and nutmegs from the Spice Islands; oranges and lemons from the Mediterranean coast; sugar and molasses from the West Indies; wine from Portugal and Spain; shawls from Cashmere in Tartary; carpets from Turkey, Persia and Hindostan; silks from China and India; laces from France and the Netherlands; cotton cloth and calicoes from India and Great Britain; woolen goods from England and France.

Today dealers in fancy fruit offer for sale the finest fruits from Florida, Jamaica, Belgium, South Africa, Spain, Arabia, Turkey, California, Smyrna. The village store sells canned goods from California, Maryland, New York, Wisconsin, Florida, Maine, Massachusetts and Connecticut; toys from Europe; silks

from Japan; dates from Greece; Queensware from England and Austria; shoes made in Massachusetts from hides imported from South America; linens from Ireland; coffee from South America; cotton from Egypt; fish from Norway; salmon from Alaska; furs from



Monument in Memory of
GENERAL NASH
Mennonite Cemetery, Kulpsville, Pa.

Russia. The village druggist in the thousands of items offered for sale has products from all parts of the world. The manufacturer faces the manufacturer of other communities and nations and in many cases is dependent on other countries for his raw materials; the storekeeper likewise competes with other communities; the farmer in selling his products in the same way

faces the world. The hides, the dresses, meats, the grain, the foods of other continents regulate the prices of what he has to sell.

"The industrial system which the mechanical revolution has fastened upon the human race in the last hundred years is so inconceivably intricate and so closely articulated that dislocation in one part affects the rest and industrial cohesiveness in the world has come to be a more essential factor in the world than political cohesiveness. The time, therefore, is long past when any nation can isolate itself from the economic security or chaos of the rest of the world. To talk in terms of eighteenth century formulas, to repeat the advice of eighteenth century statesmen, is to blind our eyes to what has happened in the last hundred years. Whether we like it or not, the race in that time has blazed a new trail—a trail which cannot be retraced. For better or worse the family of nations has been drawn together in an interdependent relationship far closer than our forefathers in Washington's day ever dreamed of."

Raymond B. Fosdick.



LOG HUT, VALLEY FORGE

CHAPTER VIII

STATISTICS

Aim of Chapter The purpose of this chapter is to make accessible statistics that throw light on past and present progress in the county. A comparative study of these is not offered because it will be more interesting and valuable to the pupil to undertake original studies and comparisons for himself under the teacher's direction. It may not be out of place to caution the pupil that while figures do not lie, as the saying goes, it is easy to misrepresent and to draw wrong conclusions with them.

County Statistics Montgomery county was established by an Act of Assembly, passed September 10, 1784, and contains approximately 480 square miles (variously stated as 450, 473, 484 square miles). Its population was 22,924 in 1790, less than 50 per square mile, and in 1920 199,310, more than 400 per square mile. At the latter period the state had a population of almost 200 per square mile; Philadelphia of almost 14,000 and Pike county of less than 13 per square mile. Of the population of 1920, 8,326 were negroes, 68 Indians, Chinese and Japanese and 24,669 foreign-born whites. Among the latter the following countries were represented, arranged according to numbers, the highest first: Italy, Ireland, Germany, England, Poland, Hungary, Russia, Scotland, Canada, France, Czecho-Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Greece, Jugo-Slavia, Wales, Lithuania, Rumania, Syria, and other countries.

At the formation of the county there were in the county 58 gristmills, 36 sawmills, 33 tanneries. In 1830 there were 17 merchantmills, 99 gristmills, 76 sawmills, 3

marble sawmills, 15 paper mills, 30 oilmills, 10 clover-mills, 12 powdermills, 5 ironworks, 9 cotton factories, 3 woolen factories, 11 fulling mills and 27 tanneries.

The State Department of Internal Affairs published the following data respecting the productive industries of the county for the year 1920:

Industry	Men	Wages	Capital	Value of Production
Building and Contracting.	1,043	\$ 1,415,000	\$ 1,141,800	\$ 4,769,900
Clay and Glass.	618	772,700	1,102,600	1,753,400
Chemicals, etc.	232	299,600	1,770,800	6,753,700
Food and Food Products...	724	987,900	2,585,200	7,207,100
Leather and Rubber....	764	1,029,000	5,173,800	5,685,900
Liquors, etc..	95	150,100	1,432,500	866,700
Lumber, etc..	585	741,500	1,634,500	2,714,900
Paper and Printing...	1,902	2,533,600	5,590,000	10,909,600
Textiles and Products...	6,654	5,600,000	13,363,600	35,842,500
Metals and Products...	14,037	22,165,400	47,373,200	138,081,700
Mines and Quarries...	160	219,300	277,100	546,200
Public Service.	627	997,900	25,610,600	4,422,000
Tobacco and Products...	2,755	2,194,900	2,019,500	8,552,500
Miscellaneous.	2,234	2,877,900	9,426,600	18,248,900
Total.....	32,430	\$41,869,800	\$118,501,800	\$246,355,000
Total 1919..	30,020	31,703,800	94,296,400	178,148,300

County	Conshohocken	Norristown	Pottstown	Bal. of Co.
Population 1920:				
199,310	8,481	32,319	17,431	
Employees:				
32,430	2,205	4,725	4,193	21,307
Wages:				
\$ 41,869,800	\$ 3,357,500	\$ 5,475,100	\$ 5,224,100	\$ 27,813,100
Capital:				
118,501,800	10,213,800	27,042,900	16,036,700	65,208,400
Value of Product:				
246,355,000	17,949,200	22,951,000	33,003,100	172,451,700

Philadelphia during the same year, 1920, paid out in wages \$106,080,100 on a capital of \$2,164,419,200 and manufactured goods valued at \$2,343,626,700.

In 1921 Montgomery county industries turned out the following products:

25,000 gallons of alcohol, 8,514 tons of fertilizers, 819,-250 gallons of tar, 13,814,000 building bricks, 83,309 pounds of confectionery, 516,342 gallons of ice cream, 92,354 tons of manufactured ice, 4,200 gallons of vinegar, 1,048,429 rubber tires and tubes, 1,884,781 cigar boxes, 1,591,104 pairs of gloves other than leather, 1,416,082 dozen pairs of hosiery, 765,830 dozen shirts, 12,325 tons of iron and steel bars, 53,249 tons of billets, blooms and slabs, 76,563 tons of iron and steel ingots, 293,132 tons of pig iron, 3,220 tons of manganese, 6,729 tons of pipes and tubings, 31,039 tons of iron and steel plates, 31,890 tons of iron and steel sheets, 18,420 typewriting machines, 1,213 tons of glass sand, 105,446,336 cigars, 10,300 dozen brooms, 381,580 tons of by-product coke.

The Triennial Assessment of the county published in 1922 gives the following totals:

Value of Real Estate taxable	\$104,714,770
Number of horses, mares, geldings and mules over the age of four years	11,336
Value	\$ 707,485
Number of meat cattle over the age of four years..	17,885
Value	\$ 738,500
Value of salaries and emoluments of office, offices, posts of profit, professions, trades and occupations	9,106,425
Aggregate value of all property taxable for county purposes	115,267,180
Amount of money at interest, including mortgages, judgments, bonds, notes, stocks, etc.....	42,929,240
Value of stages, omnibusses, hacks, cabs, etc.....	24,925
Aggregate value of property taxable for state pur- poses	42,954,165

These figures do not include Abington, Cheltenham and Lower Merion townships.

The growth of the wealth of the county is shown by the following comparative Statement of Assessments and Taxes 1900 to 1922, as given in Annual Report of the Controller:

Comparative Statement of Assessments, Taxes, Etc.

Year	Amount Valuation Co. Purposes	Amount County Tax	Amount Valuation State Purposes	Amount State Tax
1900	\$ 82,545,825	\$165,091.65	\$ 22,249,060	\$ 88,926.24
1901	81,222,100	162,444.20	22,841,945	91,377.78
1902	83,947,960	167,895.92	23,011,605	92,046.42
1903	85,649,945	171,299.89	23,274,930	93,099.80
1904	91,196,615	182,393.23	23,744,815	94,979.26
1905	93,160,630	186,482.94	25,764,659	101,998.97
1906	95,198,375	190,396.75	26,977,020	197,908.08
1907	102,593,830	307,781.19	30,386,315	121,154.26
1908	104,848,750	209,697.50	31,727,565	126,910.26
1909	104,962,250	314,785.55	34,182,566	136,730.26
1910	112,569,310	337,707.69	39,937,615	156,750.46
1911	115,291,200	345,873.15	45,560,892	182,243.75
1912	115,079,920	345,239.76	52,921,085	211,684.32
1913	126,662,510	379,987.53	61,280,540	245,122.16
1914	128,484,660	256,969.32	72,389,720	289,558.88
1915	130,359,825	260,719.65	81,610,695	326,442.68
1916	134,438,350	268,876.70	98,886,690	395,546.76
1917	136,816,380	273,632.76	115,200,260	460,801.04
1918	137,908,830	275,817.66	125,137,636	500,550.54
1919	147,469,845	294,939.69	133,198,210	532,792.84
1920	150,108,295	300,216.59	136,692,632	546,770.52
1921	160,137,721	320,275.43	141,935,813	567,743.24
1922	184,906,530	369,813.06	143,273,235	573,092.94

The same report gives the Receipts and Expenditures of the county as follows:

RECEIPTS

Respective Balances in Treasury January 1, 1922.

County Funds Account	\$ 92,884.41	
Liquor License Funds Account	9,964.02	
Mercantile License Funds Account...	242.61	
Hunters' Lic. Funds Acct., Year 1921.	46.80	
Clerk of Courts' Funds Acct. (Over-		
draft, \$234.04)		
Register of Wills' Funds Acct.....	3,424.17	
Recorder of Deeds' Funds Acct.....	24,697.54	\$ 131,025.51

Received from various sources and credited to the following accounts during the year:

County Funds Acct. (Sundry Items) ..\$	441,912.23	
County Funds Acct. (Temp. Loans) ..	300,000.00	
County Funds Acct. (Transfer of Balances)	564,692.15	
Dog Taxes Funds Acct.	15,088.00	
State Tax Funds Acct.	560,059.10	
Treasurer's Fees on Fishing License Funds Acct.	343.20	
Liquor License Funds Acct.	16,896.64	
Mercantile License Funds Acct.	66,259.41	
Fishing License Funds Acct.	3,460.00	
Hunters' License Funds Acct.	9,907.00	
Treasurer's Fees on Dog License Funds Acct.	1,225.10	
Dog License Fines Funds Acct.	1,294.00	
Appraiser's Fee Funds Acct.	1,991.75	
Treasurer's Fees on Liquor and Mercantile License Funds Acct.	1,431.00	
Fishing Law Fines Funds Acct.	40.00	
Refund Commissions Funds Acct.	449.88	
Clerk of Courts' Funds Acct.	6,352.67	
Ex-Clerk of Courts' Funds Acct.	7.00	
Prothonotary's Funds Acct.	15,568.45	
Register of Wills' Funds Acct.	20,195.13	
Recorder of Deeds' Funds Acct.	52,667.55	
Sheriff's Funds Acct.	14,427.31	
Ex-Sheriff's (L. A. Nagle, Dec'd)	53.00	
Ex-Sheriff's (C. Swartz, Dec'd)	3.00	\$2,094,323.57
Grand Total of all receipts, including balances		\$2,225,349.08

EXPENDITURES

County, proper, including salaries of Commissioners, Controller, District Attorney, Coroner and Treasurer's Office	\$1,266,261.45	
Prison	34,347.12	
Almshouse	92,936.28	
Refund of Interest on daily balance	12.37	\$1,393,575.22

SPECIAL FUNDS EXPENDED

Dog Tax Funds	\$ 15,088.00
Liquor License Funds	25,278.66
Mercantile License Funds	66,356.98
Hunters' License Funds 1921 Year..	46.80

Hunters' License Funds 1922 Year..	8,872.30	
State Tax Funds	560,059.10	
Fishing License Funds	3,455.00	
Treasurer's Fees on Dog Lic. Funds..	1,225.10	
Treasurer's Fees on Fish'g Lic. Funds	343.20	
Appraiser's Fees Funds	1,991.75	
Treasurer's Fees Funds	1,431.00	
Refund Commissions Funds	449.88	
Dog Law Fines Funds	1,289.00	
Fishing Law Fines Funds	40.00	
Clerk of Courts' Funds	5,658.45	
Ex-Clerk of Courts' Funds	7.00	
Prothonotary's Funds	11,008.93	
Register of Wills' Funds	19,949.86	
Recorder of Deeds' Funds	29,164.76	
Sheriff's Funds	14,427.31	
Ex-Sheriff's Funds (L.A.Nagle, Dec'd)	53.00	
Ex-Sheriff's Funds (Chas. Schwartz, Dec'd)	3.00	\$ 766,199.08
		\$2,159,756.30

RECAPITULATION OF COUNTY FUNDS DISBURSEMENTS

Commissioners' Office	\$ 63,244.28	
Controller's Office	11,697.37	
Coroner's Office	1,222.35	
Clerk of the Courts' Office	3,698.51	
District Attorney's Office	14,771.36	
Prothonotary's Office	6,293.21	
Register of Wills' Office	1,350.38	
Recorder of Deeds' Office	4,447.49	
Sheriff's Office	3,002.00	
Treasurer's Office	13,257.88	
Bonded Indebtedness	11,620.00	
Elections	27,208.93	
Charitable and Penal Institutions....	107,230.75	
Bridges	231,377.34	
Road Damages	14,980.70	
Roads	255,171.01	
Courts	48,589.04	
Court House	12,143.34	
House of Detention	9,744.08	
Justice of the Peace	15.51	
Miscellaneous	425,195.92	\$1,266,261.45

Township It will be instructive to get nearer home in
Statistics the study of statistics. For this reason
data bearing on the various townships and
boroughs have been collated which are pre-
sented herewith.

Table I gives the origin and area of the districts and some particulars of them at the establishment of the county.

Table II shows the growth of the county viewed from the standpoint of the schools.

Table III shows the growth of the county viewed from the standpoint of census reports.

Table IV shows number of males, age 21-45 years, 1920, and property taxable for County and State purposes. By virtue of an Act of Assembly, 1913, all so-called "State Tax" is applied to county use. Previously three-fourths reverted to the county, the State retaining one-fourth.

Table V shows what some of our roads are costing the community.

Table VI shows the number of dealers paying mercantile taxes in the various districts.

These are submitted in the hope that they may receive careful consideration and that the pupils of the county schools will gain a clearer conception of what our county is and from what humble beginnings it has arisen.

Upper Dublin, before 1719	Abington	8,840	35	77	1	6	2	..	193	235	1
Upper Frederick.....1919	Frederick	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Upper Gwynedd.....1891	Gwynedd	..	..	97	..	3	..	2	251	381	1
Upper Hanover.....1736	Original	..	..	52	6	4	3	..	192	216	3
Upper Merion, before 1714	Manor of Mt. Joy	10,200	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Upper Moreland.....1916	Moreland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Upper Pottsgrove.....1889	Pottsgrove	5,680	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Upper Providence.....1805	Providence	12,095	..	..	3	4	4	1	175	267	1
Upper Salford.....1741	Salford	12,755	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
West Conshohocken.....1874	U. and L. Merion	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
West Norriton.....1909	Norriton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
West Pottsgrove.....1900	Upper Pottsgrove	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
West Telford.....1898	Franconia	154	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whitemarsh.....1704	Original	8,857	50	89	2	5	..	2	246	284	5
Whitpain.....1701	Original	8,640	24	56	..	2	1	2	175	246	1
Worcester.....1733	Original	10,080	25	70	5	2	1	..	190	311	2

TABLE II—GROWTH OF SCHOOLS

Year	Number of Schools	Length of Term in Months	Number of Male Teachers	Number of Female Teachers	Average Salary Male Teachers	Average Salary Female Teachers	Number of Pupils	Money Raised by Taxation	State Appropriation
Abington	1844	11	4	1	\$ 25.00	\$	321	\$ 1,010.00	\$ 441.00
1860	5	10	4	2	40.00	18.00	435	3,150.75	183.72
1884	6	10	1	5	50.00	41.00	339	3,116.84	508.26
1900	14	10	5	9	59.00	51.11	641	13,339.29	2,164.13
1919	53	9.2	10	43	137.58	84.92	1,527	98,509.62	6,377.60
Ambler	1884	10	..	1	.....	45.00	75	978.15	101.80
1900	9	10	2	9	82.56	46.56	387	6,340.70	1,631.33
1919	20	9	1	10	175.00	71.75	672	18,963.00	3,960.49
Bridgeport	1860	10	1	2	35.00	20.00	197	2,408.69	75.63
1884	5	10	..	5	.....	40.55	296	2,571.98	312.19
1900	12	10	1	11	75.00	36.40	585	7,736.34	2,397.60
1919	16	9.5	1	15	218.50	85.00	733	2,176.13	4,681.35
Bryn Athyn	1919	..	..	..	.....	.....	...	169.87	104.58
Cheltenham	1844	9	4	..	20.00	.....	132	514.25	301.00
1860	6	10	4	2	36.00	18.00	324	2,938.26	134.24
1884	12	10	1	11	60.00	46.00	630	11,335.64	520.32
1900	26	10	2	26	110.00	58.81	1,177	29,739.85	4,502.28
1919	70	9	10	62	142.14	91.23	2,086	124,053.80	6,729.00

Collegeville	1900 1919	3 6	9 9	2 1	1 5	49.00 125.00	43.00 69.00	121 153	1,852.25 4,821.10	553.19 1,415.33
Conshohocken	1860 1884 1900 1919	4 12 15 33	10 10 10 9	1 1 1 2	3 11 18 31	45.00 120.00 125.00 132.50	20.33 35.09 42.95	420 653 750 ...	2,331.82 9,850.96 9,857.86 37,139.05	103.75 737.76 4,694.97 9,185.98
Douglass	1860 1884 1900 1919	9 10 10 9	5 5 7 7	9 9 11 4	.. 1 1 5	22.22 30.00 34.78 57.50	 30.00 35.00 54.00	423 426 421 274	1,256.63 1,808.68 1,731.99 5,067.80	132.66 337.83 1,737.59 2,092.97
East Greenville	..1884 1900 1919	2 3 10	7 9 8.65	2 1 2	.. 2 8	35.00 53.00 87.50	 39.00 70.62	104 141 349	619.55 937.47 7,408.56	80.69 624.51 2,002.90
East Norriton	1919	3	7.35	..	3	.....	75.00	90	5,559.75	698.07
Fagleysville	1884 1900 1919	1 2 1	7 8 7	1 1 ..	.. 1 1	40.00 40.00	 25.00 60.00	55 70 40	267.97 497.51 600.13	82.20 228.80 212.79
Franconia	1860 1884 1900 1919	6 12 9 8	4 5 7 7	6 10 8 3	.. 2 1 5	22.00 35.75 40.00 60.00	 31.25 40.00 60.00	338 545 420 469	548.00 4,124.66 2,072.70 4,116.74	151.66 484.88 1,718.36 2,077.64
Frederick	1860 1884 1900 1919	9 11 10 8	5 5 7 7.75	9 10 4 2	.. 1 6 6	22.00 31.55 34.25 56.25	 32.00 34.50 50.92	482 421 325 203	1,573.91 2,786.48 2,306.62 3,554.28	140.18 371.77 1,308.67 1,864.40
Greenlane	1884 1900 1919	1 1 2	7 8 8	1 1 ..	 2	33.00 40.00	 62.50	50 56 83	339.36 341.86 877.72	39.97 253.48 508.88

Gwynedd	1844	4	3	4	..	20.00	.....	452	300.00	401.00
	1860	6	8	6	..	25.00	.....	394	1,715.75	176.22
	1884	6	9	2	4	40.00	40.00	334	3,010.37	419.28
Hatboro	1884	3	10	1	2	60.00	35.50	158	761.08	137.24
	1900	5	10	1	4	85.00	43.75	234	2,765.03	898.49
	1919	8	9.5	1	8	155.00	80.12	390	6,414.76	1,595.43
Hatfield Borough.	1900	3	9	2	1	41.00	40.00	125	879.21	450.60
	1919	5	8.5	1	4	110.50	70.00	191	3,858.90	1,015.26
Hatfield Twp.	1860	6	5	5	1	20.00	20.00	439	530.90	112.46
	1884	6	7	4	2	40.00	40.00	359	1,689.56	323.51
	1900	7	7	4	2	40.00	39.00	284	1,450.40	1,719.60
	1919	7	7.5	1	6	67.50	64.17	264	7,877.06	1,333.83
Horsham	1860	3	10	2	1	30.00	30.00	320	1,370.80	140.18
	1884	3	10	1	2	50.00	50.00	192	1,791.99	328.03
	1900	5	10	1	4	45.00	42.50	186	2,235.21	1,041.77
	1919	5	10	..	5	.....	60.00	196	6,779.01	1,203.64
Jenkintown	1884	3	10	1	2	60.00	42.50	196	1,972.19	138.00
	1900	6	10	1	5	80.00	49.87	262	5,161.01	1,383.03
	1900	16	9	2	14	.....	.....	529	24,005.98	2,409.54
Lansdale	1884	5	8.5	1	4	50.00	31.09	250	1,956.78	168.16
	1900	11	10	1	12	95.00	47.25	590	8,315.22	2,239.56
	1919	26	9.25	2	24	130.00	69.96	861	24,807.10	4,986.13
Limerick	1860	11	5	11	..	25.00	.....	708	1,634.15	219.38
	1884	12	6	10	2	35.00	35.00	551	2,717.14	469.04
	1900	13	7	5	8	35.00	35.00	535	1,896.60	2,389.74
	1919	12	7.5	1	11	60.00	49.00	461	8,855.40	3,093.49

Montgomery	1844	3	9	3	1	18.00	14.00	286	1,175.07	259.00
	1860	3	6	3	..	24.00	.....	212	1,050.00	85.53
	1884	3	8	1	..	45.00	45.00	161	971.37	178.72
	1900	4	9	2	2	42.00	42.00	103	834.40	664.55
	1919	3	8.4	..	3	.....	61.33	106	2,342.18	491.07
Moreland	1860	7	10	6	1	30.24	25.00	605	3,502.89	205.92
	1884	7	10	4	3	45.00	33.33	309	3,987.50	392.88
	1900	11	10	..	12	.....	42.00	386	7,066.03	1,889.43
Narberth	1900	4	10	1	4	75.00	40.75	159	4,463.70	541.39
	1919	20	10	3	18	183.00	89.50	626	35,416.80	2,282.42
New Hanover	1860	11	4	13	..	19.61	.....	532	1,503.16	165.13
	1884	9	5	9	..	30.00	.....	330	2,137.50	237.54
	1900	9	7	6	3	34.50	35.00	328	1,910.94	1,605.00
	1919	9	7	2	7	57.50	56.43	231	3,509.55	1,702.21
Norristown	1844	7	12	2	5	31.67	18.00	648	1,804.09	702.00
	1860	21	10	5	16	45.00	23.00	2,312	10,280.60	706.86
	1884	43	10	4	40	87.50	40.14	2,811	35,380.70	3,310.94
	1900	70	10	8	67	94.37	46.38	3,218	53,994.97	15,997.09
	1919	117	8.82	14	103	131.43	76.38	4,503	153,830.98	22,904.50
Norrington	1844	5½	8	5	1	23.00	18.00	196	803.11	356.00
	1860	7	9	5	2	25.00	20.00	375	1,499.00	126.62
	1884	5	8	2	3	38.00	38.00	199	1,807.52	319.74
	1900	7	9	1	6	40.00	48.33	263	3,342.94	1,246.66
North Wales	1884	3	9	3	..	34.34	.....	211	1,431.52	153.84
	1900	7	10	1	6	80.00	42.92	265	4,173.99	1,044.45
	1919	11	9.2	1	10	168.42	73.99	396	8,806.05	2,441.78

Pennsburg	1884	2	6	1	1	50.00	32.00	115	832.56	134.23
	1900	4	9	3	1	38.33	32.00	189	1,819.80	772.42
	1919	7	8.15	3	4	73.50	60.00	244	4,855.84	1,692.78
Perkiomen-	1860	8	5	8	..	25.00	.....	493	1,446.05	170.28
Skippack	1884	12	6	8	4	37.62	37.25	618	3,445.65	501.47
	1900	7	8	3	4	41.66	35.00	219	2,256.04	1,118.51
	1919	3	7.6	..	3	.....	63.33	108	2,174.87	551.07
Plymouth	1844	6	11	5	3	22.00	15.00	398	900.00	397.00
	1860	5	10	3	2	25.00	21.00	406	2,086.08	161.17
	1884	5	10	2	3	35.00	35.00	304	1,950.89	426.81
	1900	7	10	1	6	60.00	40.00	292	4,286.52	1,456.33
	1919	11	10	..	11	.....	64.77	521	16,228.70	2,685.78
Pottsgrove	1860	11	4	11	..	25.00	.....	573	1,589.72	161.56
	1884	20	6	10	11	32.00	32.00	1,042	6,381.52	723.17
Pottstown	1844	3	7	..	..	20.00	14.00	190	392.53	239.00
	1860	7	7	1	7	40.00	21.28	483	2,753.69	193.25
	1884	22	10	4	18	45.00	32.61	1,100	15,126.28	1,060.25
	1900	58	10	15	50	54.66	34.34	2,842	33,602.56	12,118.28
	1919	76	8.5	11	70	108.17	66.40	2,759	86,843.00	19,604.50
Red Hill	1919	5	8	2	3	75.00	58.33	178	3,415.90	948.95
Rockledge	1900	2	10	1	1	60.00	47.50	99	1,417.63	438.68
	1919	5	10	..	5	.....	71.20	199	7,450.86	1,029.45
Royersford	1884	3	7	1	2	40.00	27.50	212	1,555.59	115.38
	1900	11	9	3	9	55.00	41.00	554	6,402.41	2,297.82
	1919	17	8.08	3	14	96.25	70.83	584	16,801.87	4,515.11

Salford	1900	4	7	4	..	35.00	.....	183	835.56	739.44
	1919	4	7	3	1	61.67	50.00	118	2,221.50	805.76
Schwenksville	1919	5	8.5	..	5	.....	70.00	119	1,968.65	1,682.45
Skippack	1900	8	8	4	4	40.00	39.50	305	2,000.99	1,320.84
	1919	8	8	4	4	63.75	62.50	268	6,035.86	1,614.21
Souderton	1900	5	9	2	3	51.25	40.00	197	2,200.84	863.21
	1919	17	9	4	13	97.11	64.62	747	18,835.37	3,829.30
Swamp	1884	1	8	..	1	.....	40.00	64	343.48	59.57
	1900	1	8	1	..	40.00	.....	37	282.57	188.85
	1919	1	8	..	1	.....	60.00	42	673.16	144.69
Springfield	1860	4	10	4	1	30.00	14.00	335	1,342.06	81.57
	1884	4	10	2	2	50.00	42.50	219	2,631.48	263.18
	1900	9	10	2	7	60.00	44.57	396	7,522.94	1,581.74
	1919	16	10	..	16	.....	77.19	437	22,959.14	2,463.11
Sumneytown	1884	2	5	2	..	30.00	.....	77	402.37	66.74
	1900	2	8	2	..	43.00	.....	72	622.37	379.50
	1900	3	8	1	2	70.00	60.00	99	1,888.20	546.72
Towamencin	1860	6	4	6	..	24.00	.....	317	919.25	94.25
	1884	6	7	6	1	40.00	40.00	310	3,038.62	243.57
	1900	7	7	5	2	38.00	40.00	261	2,096.70	1,150.48
	1919	6	7.5	1	5	70.00	67.00	194	4,327.82	1,416.33
Trappe	1884	4	7	1	3	45.00	38.33	165	1,794.48	216.42
	1900	2	9	..	2	.....	40.00	58	695.75	353.43
	1919	2	9	..	2	.....	65.00	52	1,683.64	492.38

Upper Dublin ...	1860	5	10	2	3	28.00	22.00	408	1,606.26	156.42
	1884	5	10	3	2	45.00	42.50	263	2,678.52	318.55
	1900	9	10	..	9	.....	45.00	331	5,713.01	596.66
	1919	17	10	1	16	70.00	72.19	464	25,882.59	2,768.61
Upper Gwynedd ..	1900	5	9	3	2	45.00	42.00	266	1,990.44	1,145.21
	1919	8	9	2	6	95.00	70.00	284	9,171.29	1,842.52
Upper Hanover ..	1860	10	4	10	..	25.00	.....	519	1,036.92	198.00
	1884	9	5	9	..	32.00	.....	446	1,373.19	350.65
	1900	11	7	7	4	35.00	35.00	439	2,313.67	1,990.33
	1919	9	7	2	7	60.00	51.43	270	4,388.53	1,448.71
Upper Merion ...	1844	8	11	8	..	22.00	.....	696	1,858.00	695.00
	1860	10	10	6	4	30.00	25.00	680	4,268.36	281.16
	1884	12	10	..	12	.....	40.00	418	6,127.76	583.67
	1900	13	10	..	17	.....	38.33	622	6,293.75	2,766.55
	1919	20	10	..	20	.....	61.83	840	20,554.98	4,029.30
Upper Moreland ..	1919	9	8.5	..	9	.....	73.33	281	11,904.83	2,131.09
Upper Pottsgrove.	1900	8	7	4	4	35.00	35.00	330	1,693.63	1,439.73
	1919	2	7	..	2	.....	52.50	65	1,295.64	313.38
Upper Providence.	1860	11	6	11	..	27.00	.....	704	3,095.26	229.68
	1884	12	7	4	8	40.00	40.00	605	5,189.79	537.67
	1900	14	8	3	12	40.00	40.00	494	5,480.01	2,405.70
	1919	14	8	4	10	75.50	58.50	558	15,073.30	2,822.66
Upper Salford ...	1860	7	4	7	..	21.00	.....	353	860.00	156.02
	1884	8	5	8	..	33.00	.....	450	2,640.41	371.00
	1900	5	7	4	1	35.00	35.00	188	1,020.61	945.28
	1919	5	7	3	2	51.67	52.50	141	2,433.56	928.92

W. Conshohocken. 1900	6	10	1	6	88.75	37.78	217	3,970.18	1,590.88
1919	8	10	1	6	137.50	59.17	313	6,207.00	2,094.83
West Norriton .. 1919	7	8	1	7	122.00	74.64	225	8,473.89	991.89
West Pottsgrove.. 1919	9	7	3	6	70.83	59.58	332	5,673.23	2,022.81
West Telford 1900	2	8.5	2	..	40.00	.....	100	644.53	416.03
1919	5	8	3	2	71.67	55.00	173	3,194.16	906.67
Whitemarsh 1844	6	9	6	1	25.00	18.00	492	1,000.00	573.00
1860	9	10	5	4	30.00	20.00	551	5,436.73	281.54
1884	11	10	..	11	.....	42.98	504	5,575.59	613.00
1900	13	10	2	11	55.00	41.35	521	6,629.57	2,769.61
1919	7	10	2	13	99.67	73.65	560	20,028.24	3,002.35
Whitpain 1860	6	9	6	..	27.00	.....	441	2,944.78	132.66
1884	6	9	1	5	38.00	34.80	206	2,410.54	299.37
1900	7	8	1	6	60.00	40.00	226	3,626.04	1,358.15
1919	9	7.65	1	5	95.00	63.00	160	8,833.96	1,398.02
Worcester 1860	7	6	7	..	24.00	.....	389	1,756.16	156.42
1884	7	7	4	4	40.00	37.60	357	3,339.18	328.79
1900	8	8	5	3	45.00	36.67	270	2,125.94	1,353.59
1919	6	8	1	5	70.00	75.00	243	7,276.85	1,755.28

TABLE III—GROWTH OF POPULATION

	1920	1900	1900	1860	1830	1800
Abington Township	8,684	5,896	3,803	2,058	1,524	1,080
Ambler Borough	3,094	2,649	1,884	.....	.....	.....
Bridgeport Borough	4,680	3,860	3,097	1,011	.....	.....
Bryn Athyn Borough	392	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cheltenham Township	11,015	8,434	6,154	1,981	934	680
Collegeville Borough	681	621	611	.....	.....	.....
Conshohocken Borough	8,481	7,480	5,762	1,741	.....	.....
Douglass Township	1,599	1,628	1,650	1,579	941	1,297
East Greenville Borough	1,620	1,235	894	.....	.....	.....
East Norriton Township	643	556	.....	.....	.....	.....
Franconia Township	1,639	2,239	2,036	1,579	998	629
Frederick Township	1,405	1,512	1,690	1,783	1,047	697
Greenlane Borough	332	872	272	.....	.....	.....
Gwynedd .....	.....	.....	.....	1,976	1,402	906
Hatboro Borough	1,102	963	823	.....	.....	.....
Hatfield Borough	830	705	528	.....	.....	.....
Hatfield Township	1,789	1,600	1,497	1,310	835	520
Horsham Township	1,189	1,290	1,157	1,323	1,086	781
Jenkintown Borough	3,366	2,968	2,091	.....	.....	.....
Lansdale Borough	4,728	3,551	2,754	.....	.....	.....
Limerick Township	2,400	2,267	2,250	2,413	1,743	999
Lower Gwynedd Township	1,363	1,182	1,195	.....	.....	.....
Lower Merion Township	23,866	17,671	13,271	4,423	2,524	1,422
Lower Moreland Township	1,126	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Lower Pottsgrove Township	779	704	665	.....	.....	.....
Lower Providence Township	2,221	1,790	1,625	1,578	1,193	.....
Lower Salford Township	1,692	1,712	1,763	1,473	830	524
Marlboro Township	1,014	1,195	1,129	1,332	952	645
Montgomery Township	787	794	724	998	911	546
Moreland .....	.....	2,880	2,462	2,236	2,044	1,282
Narberth Borough	3,704	1,790	847	.....	.....	.....

New Hanover Township	1,355	1,429	1,611	1,873	1,344	1,595
Norristown Borough	32,319	27,875	22,265	8,848	1,089	....
Norriton Township .....	....	....	1,177	1,406	1,139	922
North Wales Borough	2,041	1,710	1,287	....	....	....
Pennsburg Borough	1,404	1,141	1,932	....	....	....
Perkiomen-Skipack .....	....	....	....	1,840	1,278	781
Perkiomen Township	539	598	1,082	....	....	....
Plymouth Township	3,201	2,706	1,949	1,689	1,091	572
Pottsgrove .....	....	....	....	1,853	1,302	....
Pottstown Borough	17,431	15,599	13,696	2,380	676	....
Red Hill Borough	787	664	....	....	....	....
Rockledge Borough	1,029	879	512	....	....	....
Royersford Borough	3,278	3,073	2,607	....	....	....
Salford Township	700	722	789	....	....	....
Schwenksville Borough	337	381	....	....	....	....
Skipack Township	1,195	1,277	1,248	....	....	....
Souderton Borough	3,125	1,875	1,077	....	....	....
Springfield Township	3,374	2,994	2,400	1,067	668	460
Towamencin Township	1,166	1,160	1,095	1,137	669	473
Trappe Borough	412	398	324	....	....	....
Upper Dublin Township	3,045	2,936	1,933	1,437	1,292	744
Upper Gwynedd Township	1,534	1,516	1,328	....	....	....
Upper Hanover Township	1,368	1,644	1,997	2,125	1,300	738
Upper Merion Township	4,005	3,910	3,480	3,427	1,618	993
Upper Moreland Township	2,195	....	....	....	....	....
Upper Pottsgrove Township	501	454	450	....	....	....
Upper Providence Township	3,057	2,827	2,574	....	....	....
Upper Salford Township	729	773	876	1,684	1,108	676
West Conshohocken Borough	2,331	2,202	1,958	....	....	....
West Norriton Township	1,375	812	....	....	....	....
West Pottsgrove Township	1,709	1,507	891	....	....	....
West Telford Borough	921	664	534	....	....	....
Whitemarsh Township	3,436	3,359	3,350	3,048	1,924	1,085
Whitpain Township	1,826	1,528	1,442	1,402	1,137	771
Worcester Township	1,364	1,433	1,397	1,667	1,135	782

TABLE IV—VALUATION

	Males between ages 21-45 years last mili- tary enrollment, 1920	Property taxable for County Purposes	Property taxable for State Purposes
Abington Township	632	\$14,033,590	\$7,154,390
Ambler Borough	457	2,364,600	436,995
Bridgeport Borough	673	2,457,310	87,650
Bryn Athyn Borough	49	553,865	2,453,800
Cheltenham Township	1,075	17,899,810	32,183,040
Collegeville Borough	90	601,500	179,675
Conshohocken Borough	1,102	4,272,695	671,355
Douglass Township	197	877,005	232,350
East Greenville Borough ..	241	836,045	258,180
East Norriton Township ...	89	661,000	185,360
Franconia Township	211	1,098,480	241,260
Frederick Township	150	.....	.....
Greenlane Borough	52	209,580	39,275
Hatboro Borough	120	805,520	288,430
Hatfield Borough	125	635,010	130,405
Hatfield Township	230	1,472,050	318,580
Horsham Township	142	1,507,570	643,130
Jenkintown Borough	546	3,047,210	2,106,695
Lansdale Borough	677	2,383,055	1,112,710
Limerick Township	364	1,530,150	252,525
Lower Frederick .....	....	569,345	69,440
Lower Gwynedd Township ..	79	1,838,250	1,794,180
Lower Merion Township....	1,963	41,151,925	71,573,515
Lower Moreland Township .	96	1,526,475	362,500
Lower Pottsgrove Township.	120	622,450	127,320
Lower Providence Township.	166	1,704,625	243,300
Lower Salford Township ..	245	1,184,180	469,595
Marlboro Township	107	592,190	83,310
Montgomery Township	100	742,865	215,575
Narberth Borough	303	3,359,175	648,170
New Hanover Township ...	161	802,135	169,155
Norristown Borough.....	4,348	21,004,135	12,476,150
North Wales Borough	299	1,217,250	391,405
Pennsburg Borough	172	763,415	225,630
Perkiomen Township	71	474,450	60,590
Plymouth Township	252	2,871,320	351,450
Pottstown Borough	2,753	11,757,075	3,341,705
Red Hill Borough	139	408,095	126,070
Rockledge Borough	143	1,145,370	152,435

Royersford Borough	457	1,714,590	1,109,430
Salford Township	83	386,040	120,050
Schwenksville Borough	52	308,900	206,350
Skippack Township	177	1,035,505	143,930
Souderton Borough	473	1,947,735	722,435
Springfield Township	429	5,710,205	3,233,870
Towamencin Township	107	799,970	186,550
Trappe Borough	43	347,475	87,415
Upper Dublin Township	243	3,387,975	2,757,310
Upper Frederick .....	....	461,620	130,040
Upper Gwynedd Township.	210	1,291,665	245,625
Upper Hanover Township..	211	954,325	196,810
Upper Merion Township ..	121	4,376,535	575,555
Upper Moreland Township.	271	1,995,400	490,770
Upper Pottsgrove Township	67	217,110	58,380
Upper Providence Township	287	1,720,840	270,855
Upper Salford Township ..	105	473,915	101,600
West Conshohocken Borough	355	928,035	46,900
West Norriton Township ..	165	1,694,170	233,140
West Pottsgrove Township..	150	774,385	35,290
West Telford Borough	160	458,980	89,015
Whitemarsh Township	665	3,394,820	991,720
Whitpain Township	141	1,837,875	638,820
Worcester Township	200	1,150,665	1,279,500



Reproduction of
HOSPITAL HUT, VALLEY FORGE
occupied during the winter of
1777-1778, built on original
site

TABLE V—ROAD EXPENSES

	Fees, etc.	State Road Maintenance	Loans and Interest	Repairs of Earth Roads	New Roads and Permanent Improvements
Douglass	\$ 317.48	\$.....	\$ 1,079.34	\$3,726.85	\$5,747.20
Franconia	495.44	5,980.23	.....	2,198.53	2,060.62
Frederick	220.06	.....	.....	1,724.13	3,019.40
Hatfield	381.79	8,458.10	1,587.84	522.27	808.70
Horsham	475.24	1,948.79	4,850.30	1,564.95	779.06
Limerick.....	933.49	1,729.57	19,597.00	2,213.00	5,310.69
Lower Gwynedd...	663.06	10,985.36	.....	670.00	11.75
Lower Pottsgrove.	243.30	.....	.....	300.55	5,575.25
Lower Providence.	467.18	8,552.71	9,935.69	1,043.41	161.75
Lower Salford....	227.05	.....	.....	1,516.99	3,934.15
Marlborough.....	252.58	.....	952.82	274.12	4,842.50
Montgomery.....	190.64	2,952.49	1,601.50	316.20	.....
Lower Moreland..	602.34	6,820.93	375.00	985.79	3,441.68
New Hanover....	384.93	.....	2,525.41	4,294.00	3,141.17
Perkiomen.....	112.99	.....	.....	903.09	1,680.79
Plymouth.....	270.00	.....	.....	172.10	1,347.00
Salford.....	189.55	1,325.73	1,833.00	1,317.14	426.31
Skippack.....	360.11	.....	3,097.56	1,243.65	8,572.13
Towamencin.....	246.28	1,130.92	1,025.67	866.20	3,235.99
Upper Dublin.....	1,094.32	.....	7,500.00	5,071.39	5,160.86
Upper Gwynedd...	757.95	1,521.30	1,153.90	4,189.40	45.00
Upper Hanover...	407.04	.....	.....	2,701.64	5,920.16
Upper Merion....	700.17	13,472.36	1,215.75	301.35	375.85
Upper Providence.	516.21	2,085.42	10,922.35	943.39	13,152.99
Upper Pottsgrove.	94.06	.....	249.60	1,544.00	145.64
Upper Salford....	252.00	.....	.....	1,353.79	3,361.68
West Norriton...	803.49	4,741.43	3,157.83	354.35	9,625.70
West Pottsgrove..	341.52	.....	.....	377.60	3,037.26
Whitemarsh.....	1,368.15	3,510.50	1,394.33	171.75	20,798.96
Whitpain.....	531.04	.....	1,046.32	75.00	7,584.22
Worcester.....	410.20	3,572.62	4,907.58	1,916.87	4,511.58
Abington.....					
Cheltenham.....					
Springfield.....					

	Machinery	Wages of Roadmasters	Obstruction ⁴ Removal of Snows and	Miscellaneous	Unimproved Roads	Improved Roads
Douglass	\$ 66.74	\$ 801.50	\$	\$ 120.49	61.1	....
Franconia	752.45	601.75	126.50	311.08	62.5	10.5
Frederick	14.90	1,110.65	41.45	217.76	35	25
Hatfield	59.17	459.81	15.50	244.11	20	23
Horsham	478.55	609.00	275.50	.....	39	18
Limerick	68.22	1,669.40	194.15	304.83	54	22
Lower Gwynedd....	1,262.81	.....	159.90	651.71	20	28
Lower Pottsgrove..	620.00	384.40	36.90	345.94	10	25
Lower Providence..	13.23	1,040.00	10.05	247.74	25.7	22.5
Lower Salford....	72.51	646.50	47.23	256.69	64	6
Marlborough.....	.....	133.85	51.25	.....	40	....
Montgomery.....	8.80	479.62	96.25	201.39	15	12.7
Lower Moreland....	245.23	123.00	138.50	29.04	140	9.5
New Hanover.....	16.70	676.86	134.00	27.50	40	31
Perkiomen.....	6.74	238.35	26.70	148.82	15	6
Plymouth.....	25.85	1,237.50	48.50	310.23	25	23
Salford.....	152.90	184.73	87.69	.....	31	7
Skippack.....	497.21	695.04	27.69	454.46	42.3	8
Towamencin.....	194.39	.....	19.58	997.29	28	11
Upper Dublin.....	1,763.60	1,820.00	.....	.....	10	32.6
Upper Gwynedd....	19.78	378.75	40.40	583.17	18.1	10.7
Upper Hanover....	624.11	1,356.56	70.77	253.37	58	20.6
Upper Merion.....	45.75	2,297.50	.....	219.86	10	46.6
Upper Providence..	347.93	916.45	27.50	317.56	36	23
Upper Pottsgrove..	14.69	249.45	74.10	170.92	18	....
Upper Salford....	218.78	853.05	49.65	36.50	27.8	4.8
West Norriton....	31.59	128.80	.....	4,532.40	16	17.3
West Pottsgrove...	4.15	183.22	48.00	139.52	3.4	6.4
Whitemarsh.....	382.00	1,805.71	53.12	.....	5.5	37
Whitpain.....	45.00	817.10	122.40	.....	4.4	28
Worcester.....	340.56	886.30	30.46	.....	50	14
Abington.....	.....	.....	.....	36,454.87	36	72
Cheltenham.....	.....	.....	.....	71,056.00	13.5	14
Springfield.....	.....	.....	.....	21,245.74	5	28

TABLE VI—DEALERS PAYING MERCANTILE TAXES

	Retail Dealers	Eating Houses	Wholesale Dealers	Real Estate Dealers	Billiard and Pool Rooms
Abington	62	1	..	7	1
Ambler	99	5	1	4	5
Bridgeport	71	2	2	2	4
Cheltenham	97	5	3	6	4
Collegeville	20	2	2	2	..
Conshohocken	193	4	2	5	10
Douglass	28	1	1	2	1
East Greenville	45	1	1	1	1
Franconia	30	..	1	..	1
Frederick	43	5	1	2	..
Greenlane	8	..	..	1	..
Gwynedd	9	..	..	..	..
Hatboro	47	1	..	4	1
Hatfield Borough	21	2	1	..	1
Hatfield Township	6	..	..	..	..
Horsham	11	..	..	1	..
Jenkintown	73	3	3	11	1
Lansdale	109	5	5	8	3
Limerick	30	4	..	1	2
Lower Gwynedd	..	..	..	1	..
Lower Merion	166	7	3	16	1
Lower Pottsgrove	17	2	..	1	..
Lower Providence	18	2	..	2	1
Lower Salford	23	1	1	..	..
Marlborough	12	1	..	..	..
Montgomery	3	..	..	1	..
Moreland	59	6	2	3	1
Narberth	15	..	..	1	1
New Hanover	11	..	..	1	..
Norristown	187	33	43	52	20
Norriton	11	..	..	1	..
North Wales	47	1	..	4	1
Pennsburg	38	3	..	..	..
Perkiomen	13	1	1	..	..
Plymouth	25	..	..	..	1
Pottstown	391	16	40	15	7
Red Hill	14	1	..	..	..
Rockledge	3	..	..	..	..
Royersford	56	3	1	3	2

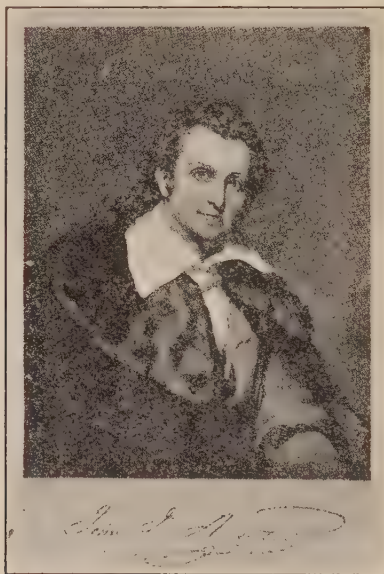
Salford	9	1	..	1	..
Schwenksville	17	1	1	1	..
Skippack	13	..	..	1	..
Souderton	67	4	4	6	1
Springfield	40	2	..	2	..
Towamencin	14	1	2	..	..
Trappe	9	..	..	..	..
Upper Dublin	16	..	..	..	..
Upper Gwynedd	15	..	2	..	1
Upper Hanover	18	1	..	..	..
Upper Merion	22	..	..	2	..
Upper and West Pottsgrove.	28	..	..	..	1
Upper Providence	28	1	2	1	..
Upper Salford	13	..	1	1	..
West Conshohocken	25	..	..	2	2
West Telford	21	1	1	1	..
Whitemarsh	34	3	1	..	1
Whitpain	16	..	..	..	..
Worcester	12	..	..	..	..

CHAPTER IX

BIOGRAPHY

SOME OF THE NOTEWORTHY MEN

AARON, SAMUEL, 1800-1865, born in Bucks county; entered ministry, 1828; Norristown pastor, 1841; principal of Treemount Seminary, 1844-1859; great temperance advocate; died at Mounty Holly, N. J., 1865.



JOHN J. AUDUBON (1780-1851)

ACKER, E. L., 1827-1904, born in Marlborough, publisher, postmaster of Norristown, superintendent of public schools of county; member of Congress.

ALBRIGHT, REV. JACOB, 1759-1808, born in Fox Hill, Pottsgrove township; moved to Lancaster county; tilemaker; founded Evangelical church, 1796.

ANTES, FREDERICK, 1730-1801, son of Henry; earnest patriot and colonel in Revolutionary War; Pa. Assembly, 1776; iron

- founder who cast first four-pounder pieces in America; office holder in Northumberland county, where he died.
- ANTES, HENRY, 1701-1755, immigrant; "the pious farmer, teacher, Reformed layman of Frederick;" manager of secular affairs of Moravian church, 1745-1750.
- ANTES, JOHN, 1740, son of Henry; watchmaker; missionary in Egypt; pastor in Bristol, England, where he died.
- APPLE, JOHN D., 1808-1852, born in New York; prominent scholar; surveyor and justice of the peace, Marlborough township.
- AUDUBON, JOHN JAMES, 1780-1851, born in Louisiana; resident of Lower Providence; great naturalist; went to England to publish his book, "The Birds of America;" died in New York.
- AUGE, MOSES, 1811-1898, born in Delaware; resided in Norristown; writer, historian, editor, publisher.
- BEAN, THEODORE W., COL., 1833-1891, blacksmith by trade; officer in Civil War, 1862-1865; admitted to bar, 1869; Pa. Legislature, 1889; scholar, historian, editor of history of county.
- BOEHM, REV. JOHN PHILIP, immigrant 1720, died 1749; organizer of Reformed churches; resided in Whitpain; buried at Boehm's church, which he founded.
- BOILEAU, HON. N. B., 1763-1850; Princeton, 1788; Pa. Assembly, eight years; speaker, 1808; secretary of Commonwealth, nine years; resident of Hatboro.
- BOMBERGER, REV. J. H. A., D. D., 1817-1890, born in Lancaster county; graduate of Marshall College; founder and for twenty years president of Ursinus College.
- BOSSERT, HENRY M., 1825- , born in county; Colonel in Civil War; resident and office-holder, Clinton county.
- BOYER, HON. B. M., 1823-1867, born in New Hanover; Univ. of Pa.; House of Representatives, four years.
- BRINGHURST, W. A., -1876, Trappe; Pa. Legislature; created by will trust fund for benefit of poor.
- BUCK, WILLIAM J., 1825-1901; born in Bucks county, resident of Hatboro; prominent historian and writer.
- BULL, JOHN, 1731-1824, resident of Limerick and Norriton; colonel in Revolutionary War; Pa. Assembly, 1778; moved to Berkeley county, Va.
- BURNSIDE, THOMAS, born in Lower Providence, moved to Bellefonte; Pa. Legislature, 1815, 1817; judge, Montgomery county court, 1841-1845; judge of Supreme Court.

CASSATT, ALEXANDER JOHNSTON, Lower Merion, 1839-1906; president Pennsylvania Railroad Company: "Whose foresight, courage and ability achieved the extension of the Pennsylvania Railroad system into New York City."



ALEXANDER JOHNSTON CASSATT
Statue in Pennsylvania Station
New York City

CASSEL, ABRAHAM H., 1820-1908. Lower Salford; antiquarian and book collector.

CLARK, CHARLES HEBER, Conshohocken, 1841-1915, born in Berlin, Md.; journalist, 1865; publisher of industrial journal; secretary of Manufacturers' Club, Phila., ten years; author under pseudonym, Max Adeler.

- CONRAD, HON. FREDERICK, -1827, resident of Worcester and Norristown; Pa. Assembly, 1798-1800; House of Rep., 1803-1806; prothonotary and clerk of courts.
- COOKE, JAY, 1821-1905, born in Ohio; banker of Philadelphia, financier of Civil War; fiscal agent of Northern Pacific Railroad; resided at Ogontz.
- CORSON, ALAN W., 1787-1882, Plymouth; teacher, surveyor, nurseryman, botanist.
- CORSON, HIRAM, 1804-1896, Plymouth; eminent physician, writer and reformer.



ABRAHAM H. CASSEL (1820-1908)

- CORSON, JOSEPH, 1764-1834, born in Bucks county; prominent farmer and merchant, Hickorytown. Father of Alan W; Mary, whose son became U. S. Consul in Brazil; Joseph, whose son became Professor at Cornell; George, merchant; Hiram and William, doctors.
- CORSON, JOSEPH K., 1836-1913, Plymouth; Univ. Pa. Medical, 1863; noted army surgeon.
- CRAIG, THOMAS, 1740-1832, born in Northampton county; colonel in Revolutionary War; appointed first associate judge, prothonotary, clerk of courts and recorder of deeds of county.

- CRUIKSHANK, REV. ROBERT, 1821-1901, born in Ireland; grad. Union Col., N. Y., and Princeton Theol. Sem.; minister; superintendent of public schools, Montgomery county; teacher; college and university president; died in Colorado.
- DERR, FRANKLIN, 1815-1877, born in Hamburg, Berks county, resident of Norristown; extensive dealer in dressed stone.
- DOCK, CHRISTOPHER, immigrant, died 1771; noted teacher of Skippack, Salford, and Germantown; author of first book on teaching published in America.
- DODD, ROBERT J., 1809-1876, Lower Merion; grad. Jeff. Med. Col.; noted army surgeon.
- DOTTERER, HENRY S., 1841-1903, born in Frederick township, died in Philadelphia; historian and genealogist.
- EVANS, ROWLAND, 1728-1789, Pa. Assembly; trustee, General Loan Office.
- FARMAR, EDWARD, 1672-1745, immigrant from England; extensive landholder in Whitemarsh; justice of the peace; Indian interpreter.
- FETTEROLF, ADAM H., 1841-1909, born in Upper Providence; teacher, Freeland Seminary; vice-president and president, Girard College. 1882-1909.
- FORNANCE, JOSEPH, 1804-1852, Lower Merion, House of Rep., 1838, 1840.
- FORTMAN, CHARLES, grad. German university; a teacher of languages and music; introduced use of piano forte.
- FRY, HON. JACOB, JR., 1802-1866, Trappe; teacher; prothonotary and clerk of courts; House of Rep., 1834-1838; Pa. Legislature, 1853-54; auditor general, 1857-1860.
- FRY, REV. DR. JACOB, 1834-1920, born at Trappe; grad. Union Col., N. Y., 1853; noted teacher, preacher, and author.
- FUNK, HENRY, immigrant, died 1760; miller, bishop, author of two books; supervised with Dillman Kolb, translation of noted Ephrata Martyrbook from the Dutch.
- FURLEY, BENJAMIN, 1636-1714, English merchant; resident of Rotterdam; scholar, author; agent of William Penn on the continent.
- GRAEME, DR. THOMAS, 1688-1772, born in Scotland; migrated with Sir William Keith, whose stepdaughter he married; justice of the Supreme Court; bought Graeme Park 848 acres, which had been the property of Sir William Keith.

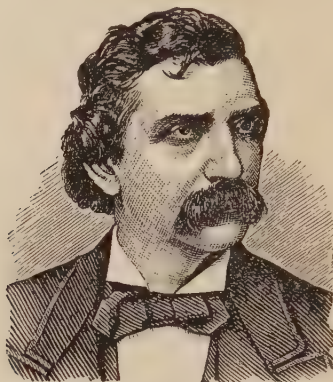
- GROSS, SAMUEL, 1774-1844, Upper Providence; Pa. Legislature, 1803-1807; Pa. Senate, 1811-1815; House of Rep., 1818-1820.
- GUMMERE, JOHN, 1783-1845, Willow Grove; author of textbooks on surveying and astronomy; conducted classical and mathematical school at Burlington, N. J.
- GUMMERE, SAMUEL R., 1789-1818, brother of John; Horsham; author of school books.
- HAMILL, ROBERT, immigrant from Ireland; Norristown merchant; father of an illustrious family of ministers and teachers.
- HANCOCK, W. S., 1824-1880, born in Montgomery township; grad. West Point; served in Mexican War; Brigadier-General in Civil War; Presidential Nominee, 1880.



WINFIELD SCOTT HANCOCK
(1824-1880)

- HARMER, JOSIAH, Perkiomen-Skipack, successor of Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the American Army; led army against the Miami Indians.
- HARTMANFT, CHESTER DAVID, 1839-1914, born in Frederick township; grad. Univ. Pa., 1861, and New Brunswick, N. J., Theol. Sem., 1864; pastor; professor, 1879-1903, president, 1888-1903, and honorary president, 1903 to death, of Hartford Theological Seminary; editor-in-chief of *Corpus Schwenkfeldianorum*.

HARTRANFT, JOHN FREDERICK, 1830–1889, born in New Hanover; grad. Union Col., 1853; major-general in Civil War; auditor-general of State, two terms; governor of State, 1873–1879; postmaster and collector of port, Philadelphia; resident of Norristown.



JOHN FREDERICK HARTRANFT
(1830-1889)
GOVERNOR (1873-1879)

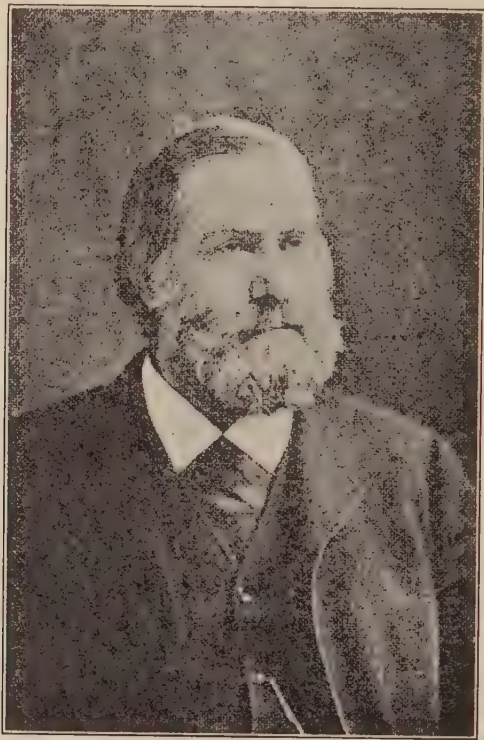
HIESTER, DANIEL, JOHN and JOSEPH, residents of Goshenhoppen; latter two moved to Berks county; Daniel, 1713–1795, resided near Sumneytown; of his sons, Daniel was officer in Revolutionary War, member of Congress from Pa. and Maryland; John, officer in Revolutionary War, and Pa. Senate 1802–1806 from Chester county; Gabriel, officer in Revolutionary War, Pa. Assembly, 1778–1790, except two or three years, House of Rep., 1791, 1802–1804; Pa. Senate, 1795–6, 1805–1812; William enlisted in Revolutionary War, but served in one campaign only.

HITE, HANS JOOST, immigrant, New York, 1710, Germantown, 1716; landowner Perkiomen-Skipack, 1717–1732; moved to Bartonville, Va., prominent landholder, colonizer and ancestor of leading Virginia families.

HOOVER, HIRAM C., 1822–1911, musician; held various local offices; Pa. Assembly, 1862–1864; associate judge ten years.

- HOVENDEN, THOMAS, 1840-1895, born in Ireland; resident of Plymouth; painter of "Breaking Home Ties"; lost his life trying to save the life of a little girl at an unguarded railroad crossing.
- HUFF, GEORGE F., born 1842 in Norristown; banker, interested in coke and coal industries; resident of Greensburg.
- HUNSICKER, REV. ABRAHAM, 1793-1872, Mennonite bishop; organized Freeland Seminary, which became Ursinus College; helped to organize Pennsylvania Female College.
- JENKINS, HOWARD M., 1842-1902, Gwynedd; author and editor.
- JONES, MALACHI, 1651-1729, first pastor of Abington Presbyterian church, 1714-1729, which erected first Presbyterian church of the county.
- KEITH, SIR WILLIAM, 1669 or '70-1749, born in Scotland; governor of Pennsylvania, 1717-1726; built Graeme Park, 1722; returned to England, where he died.
- KRATZ, HENRY W., 1834-1917, born in Perkiomen township; public school teacher; justice of the peace, 1862; clerk of State Senate, 1866-1867; recorder of deeds, 1883-1886; Pa. Legislature, 1894; moved to Norristown, 1889.
- KRAUSE, DAVID, 1800-1871, born in Lebanon; private secretary to Governor Shulze; editor; deputy attorney-general, 1829; Pa. Legislature, 1835; judge, Montgomery county, 1845-1851.
- KRAUTH, CHARLES PORTERFIELD, REV., 1823-1883; grad. Pa. Col., Gettysburg, of which his father was president; ordained 1842; pastor, professor, editor, author of books, viceprovost of Univ. of Pa..
- KRAUTH, CHARLES PHILIP, 1797-1867, son of organist of Six-Cornered church, Charles J. Krauth and wife, Catharine, a member of congregation; licensed to preach, 1819; professor Pa. Col., 1833; president of Pa. Col., 1834-1851.
- LAY, BENJAMIN, 1677-1759, cave dweller; published, 1737, book against slavery.
- LEECH, RICHARD T., 1775-1850, born in Cheltenham; Pa. Legislature, 1809-1813; surveyor-general, 1813-1818; moved to Pittsburgh, where he died.
- LEECH, TOBY, native of Cheltenham, England, one of the earliest settlers of Cheltenham.

LEGAUX, PETER, born in France, 1743, migrated, 1785; scientific student, contributor to magazines, and tried to introduce grape culture for the manufacture of wine. Died at his home at Spring Mill, 1828.



JOSEPH LEIDY (1823-1891)

LEIDY, JOSEPH, son of Philip Leidy of Hatfield township; born in 1823, died 1891. A world renowned scientist; from a broken tooth he depicted correctly the entire form of an extinct rhinoceros.

LOCH, JOHN W., born in Worcester, 1830; grad. Univ. of Pa., a noted teacher of Norristown.

- LOLLER, COL. ROBERT, Scotch-Irish, born 1740, died 1808; teacher, soldier, statesman, associate judge, recorder and register, founder by will of Loller Academy, resident of Moreland.
- LOWE, PROF. T. S. C., born 1832, in New Hampshire, distinguished aeronaut and scientific inventor; moved to Norristown, 1871.
- LUKENS, ISAIAH, 1779-1864, born in Horsham, son of John; made clocks of Loller Academy and State House, Philadelphia; one of founders of Franklin Institute; died in Philadelphia.
- LUKENS JOHN, Horsham; mathematician and philosopher; surveyor-general, 1761-1769; assisted Rittenhouse in observing transit of Venus, 1769; one of four commissioners to run boundary line between Pennsylvania and Virginia, 1784-1785; laid out towns of Sunbury and Bedford.
- McCREEDY, BERNARD, born in Ireland 1775, resided in Philadelphia, died 1846. One of the builders and proprietors, 1840, of the cotton factory at the foot of Swede street, Norristown.
- MEDARY (MADEIRA) SAMUEL, born in Montgomery Square, February 25, 1801, of Quaker ancestry; educated at Norristown Academy; newspaper editor and publisher in Ohio; prominent politician, being called the "Wheelhorse of Ohio Democracy"; member of both branches of the Ohio Legislature; postmaster of Columbus; Governor of Minnesota, 1857-58, and of Kansas, 1859-60; died in Columbus, Ohio, November 7, 1864.
- MENAN, PATRICK, born in Ireland 1711, resident of White-marsh; teacher, surveyor, and conveyancer; the teacher of Andrew Porter and David Rittenhouse.
- MILES, SAMUEL, born 1740, died 1805, a member of the Pa. Assembly, 1805; lived in Spring Mill; moved to Cheltenham, 1792.
- MITTELBERGER, GOTTLIEB, brought organs from Germany; organist and teacher at Trappe, 1750-1754. Returned to Germany.
- MOORE, NICHOLAS, born in London, migrated to Pennsylvania, 1682; acquired the Manor of Moreland of ten thousand acres, 1684; president of "The Free Society of Traders in Pennsylvania"; speaker of the first provincial assembly held at Chester, December, 1682; first chief justice of Pennsylvania.

- MOTT, LUCRETIA, born in Massachusetts, Nantucket Island, 1793; school teacher in Philadelphia; married Jacob Mott; resided in Cheltenham; prominent life-long worker in the cause of Anti-Slavery and Woman's Rights.
- MUHLENBERG, HON. FRANCIS AUGUSTUS, born in Upper Providence, 1750; died 1802; son of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg; graduate of Halle; preached in New York City; took part in the Revolutionary War; judge; register and recorder of Montgomery county; member and first speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington.
- MUHLENBERG, REV. HENRY ERNEST, born in Upper Providence, 1753, died 1815. Son of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, Lutheran Minister, noted botanist and scientist.
- MUHLENBERG, REV. HENRY MELCHIOR, born in Germany, 1711, migrated 1742; pastor at Philadelphia and at Trappe. Married Anna, daughter of Conrad Weiser, father of the Lutheran Church in the United States; died 1787.
- MUHLENBERG, GENERAL PETER, born in Upper Providence, 1746, son of Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg; studied at Halle, preached at Woodstock, Virginia; became a general in the Revolutionary War; legislator, collector of Port of Philadelphia.
- NORRIS, ISAAC, born in London, 1671, died 1736; migrated to Philadelphia, member of the Governor's Council, and speaker of Assembly, justice of the county, mayor of Philadelphia, joint purchaser, 1704, with Col. William Trent, and later sole owner of Manor Williamstaedt, later Norriton township, 1730.
- PAWLING, LEVI, born 1772, died 1845; House of Rep., 1817-19; filled a great number of public positions; resided in Norristown.
- PENNEBECKER, HEINRICH, born 1674, died 1754; prominent German surveyor, and ancestor of an illustrious family, including the late Samuel W. Pennypacker.
- PENNYPACKER, SAMUEL WHITTAKER, born in Phoenixville, 1843; died at Schwenksville, 1917; admitted to bar, 1866; appointed as judge, 1889; twice elected for term of ten years; filled various positions of honor; governor, 1903-1907; author, historian, reformer.
- PORTER, GENERAL ANDREW, born 1743, died 1813; served in the Revolutionary War, surveyor general, father of Governor David R. Porter of Pennsylvania, General James M. Porter, and Governor George B. Porter, of Michigan.

PORTER, GOVERNOR DAVID R., born 1788, son of General Andrew Porter; iron manufacturer, member of the Penna. Assembly, 1821; member of Pa. State Senate, 1882; Governor of Pa., 1839-1845; died in Harrisburg, 1867.

PORTER, ROBERT, born in Ireland, 1698; resided in Worcester and Whitpain townships, buried at Norriton Presbyterian Church, ancestor of an illustrious family.



SAMUEL WHITTAKER PENNYPACKER

(1843-1917)

Governor (1903-1907)

POTTS, JOHN, oldest son of Thomas, the immigrant, born 1710; enterprising speculator in iron works; founder of Pottstown, 1752-53; built noted mansion on Manatawny; died 1768. Of his children: Thomas was interested in iron business, held public office and was a colonel in Revolutionary War; Samuel was engaged in iron business and held public office; John was judge of courts, became loyalist, was deprived of property by confiscation, moved to Nova Scotia, later returned to states; Joseph, a Philadelphia merchant and minister among Society of Friends; Jonathan, an eminent physician; Isaac, interested in iron works at Valley Forge; James, an eminent attorney; Martha married Thomas Ritter, son of Thomas, interested in iron business; Anna married her cousin, David Potts, interested also in iron business, and Rebecca married Dr. Benjamin Duffield.

RALSTON, JAMES GRIER, D. D., LL.D., died 1880; founder and principal of Oakland Female Institute, Norristown, 1845.

REYNOLDS, JOHN, born in Montgomery county, 1789, migrated to Illinois prior to 1818; Illinois State Supreme Court, 1818-26; State Legislature, 1826-30; Governor, 1830-34; later member of Congress, and Speaker of House, Illinois Legislature, advocate of internal improvements, historical writer, died 1865.



DAVID R. PORTER
(1788-1867)

Governor (1838-1845)

RICHARDS, GEORGE, born in New Hanover, 1788, died 1873; member of the State Senate, 1846. Justice of the peace many years.

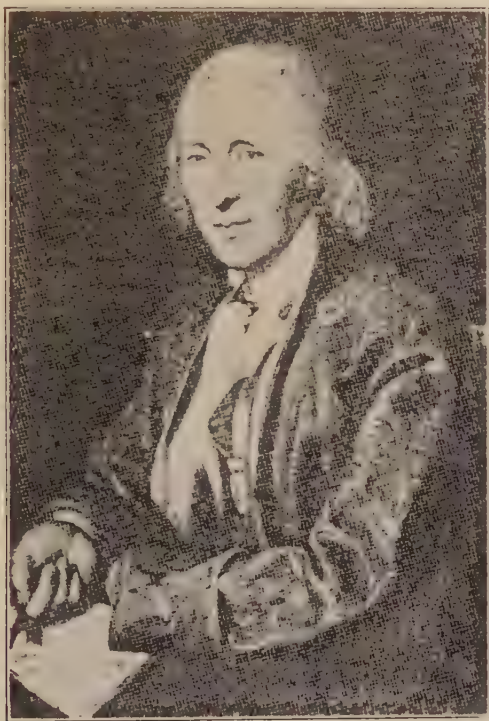
RITTENHOUSE, DAVID, born 1732, died 1795; son of Matthias, farmer, clockmaker, mathematician, astronomer, philosopher, State treasurer, a member of the committee to survey Mason and Dixon Line, first director of the United States Mint. Observed the transit of Venus, 1769, at his observatory in Worcester township.

READ, LOUIS WERNWAG, born 1828; graduate of medicine in the University of Pennsylvania, 1849; eminent physician and army surgeon; died 1900.

REED, JACOB, born 1730, died 1820; resided in Hatfield township, colonel in the Revolutionary War.

ROBERTS, GEORGE B., born 1833, died 1897; president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, 1880-1897, resident of Bala.

ROBERTS, JONATHAN, HON., born 1771, died 1854. Pa. Assembly, 1798-99 and 1823; Pa. Senate, 1807; House of Rep., Washington, 1811-1813, and of the United States Senate, 1814; collector of customs, Philadelphia, 1841. Resided in Lower Merion.



DAVID RITTENHOUSE (1732-1795)

ROTHERMEL, PETER F., born in Luzerne county, 1817, distinguished artist and painter, resided in later life in Limerick township; died 1895. Painter of "Battle of Gettysburg."

ROYER, HON. JOSEPH, born at Trappe, 1784; Pa. Assembly, 1821-22; associate judge; candidate for Congress. His sons, Horace and Lewis, became Pennsylvania State Senators.

- RUTTER, THOMAS, the first European to manufacture iron from ore in America on the Manatawny.
- ST. CLAIR, ARTHUR, born in Scotland 1734, died in Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania; surveyor and agent of the Penns; a most enthusiastic patriot during the Revolution; governor of the Northwest Territory with headquarters at Marietta, Ohio; for a time a resident of Pottstown, having purchased the confiscated property of John Potts.
- SCHALL, WILLIAM, born in Oley, Berks county, 1812, operated the Greenlane Forge, 1833 to 1848, when he moved to Norristown. Five of his sons volunteered their services in the Civil War: Reuben, Edwin, Edward, David and Calvin.
- SCHLATTER, MICHAEL, born in Switzerland, 1716; sent to America as a missionary, and organized the German Reformed Synod, 1747; superintendent of Charity Schools, 1755-57; Chaplain of the American army in expedition to Nova Scotia 1757.
- SCULL, NICHOLAS, resident of Whitemarsh, Indian interpreter, surveyor, map publisher, surveyor general, 1748-1761. Grandfather of Edward Biddle, member of Pa. Assembly, and Speaker of the House of Rep., of Pennsylvania, and member of Congress; died 1761.
- SHUNK, FRANCIS RAWN, born near the Trappe, 1788, teacher at fifteen, clerk in surveyor-general's office, soldier in the War of 1812, lawyer at twenty-eight, clerk of the House of Rep., moved to Pittsburgh, governor 1845-1848, died 1848, and buried at the Trappe.
- SIMPSON, JOHN, 1768-1837, of Horsham township, moved to Bethel, Clermont county, Ohio, 1818; his daughter, Hannah, married Jesse Root Grant, whose son was U. S. Grant.
- SLEMMER, ADAM, born in Philadelphia 1791, member of the Pa. Assembly, 1826 to 1830, prothonotary, 1833; editor, publisher, and public-spirited citizen; resident of Montgomery county, where he died, 1882.
- SLEMMER ADAM, J., born in Frederick township, 1829, graduate of West Point, 1850; brigadier general in the Civil War; defender of Fort Pickens, 1861.
- SMITH, JOHN C., born in Frederick township, 1818, member of Pa. Senate, 1861 to 1864; prominent business man.
- SMITH, WILLIAM MOORE, born in Philadelphia, 1759; lawyer; owner of the land on which Norristown is located; laid out its first streets and lots.

STEEL, ROBERT, born in Ireland, 1794; pastor of the Abington Presbyterian Church, 1819 to 1862; noted for the prominent men whom he influenced to enter the ministry.

STERIGERE, J. B., born in Upper Dublin, 1793; member of Pa. Assembly, 1821 to 1824; member of the Pa. Senate, 1839 to 1843; active in the affairs of the borough of Norristown.



FRANCIS RAWN SHUNK

(1788-1848)

Governor (1844-1848)

STINSON, MARY ANDERSON born in Norriton, 1819; grad. Woman's Medical College, 1869; assistant physician of the State Lunatic Asylum of Massachusetts.

SUNDERLAND, J. W., born in Exeter, R. I., 1813; grad. of Wesleyan Univ., 1836; principal of Freeland Institute, 1848 to 1851, and of the Montgomery Female Seminary, 1851; died 1904.

SUPER, HENRY W., Collegeville, 1824-1897, born, Baltimore, Md.; Marshall College, 1849; entered ministry, 1851; professor at Normal School, Kutztown, 1867-70; vice-president and professor of mathematics, mechanics, church history, Ursinus College and Seminary.

SUTTON, W. HENRY, born Haddonfield, N. J., 1835; graduate of Wesleyan Univ., 1857; member of Pa. Senate, 1882; resident of Lower Merion; died 1913.

- TAYLOR, JACOB, Abington, school teacher and surveyor general, 1706-1733.
- TELNER, JACOB, Mennonite merchant of Crefeld, the connecting link between William Penn and the Crefeld congregation.
- THOMSON, CHARLES, born in Ireland, 1730; migrated 1741; resident of Lower Merion; called by the Indians "a man of truth"; secretary of the Continental Congress, 1774-1789; knew inside history of the Revolutionary War, but destroyed his records; died 1824, body removed to Laurel Hill cemetery.
- TODD, ROBERT, born in Ireland, migrated 1737, settled in Upper Providence; ancestor of the wife of President Lincoln.
- WACK, REV. JOHN G., born, 1776, son of Rev. Caspar Wack; pastor at Boehm's, Wentz and St. Peter's churches; a classical scholar, very fond of music; died 1856.
- WEAND, HENRY K. born at Pottstown, 1838; admitted to the Bar, 1860; served in the Civil War; Judge of Montgomery county courts, and died 1914.
- WEINBERGER, J. SHELLY, born in Bucks county, 1832; grad. of Yale, 1859; professor at Freeland Seminary, 1859 to 1870; at Ursinus Col., 1870 to 1903; Dean of Ursinus Col., 1892-1903, died 1917.
- WEISS, REV. GEORGE MICHAEL, an early minister and organizer of the Reformed Church, pastor at New Goshenhoppen, died 1763.
- WILSON, HON. J. BIRD, 1777-1859, lawyer, judge, rector, professor of systematic theology.
- WOOD, JAMES, 1770-1851, Conshohocken, founder of the iron works of Conshohocken.
- YOST, JACOB S., born in Pottsgrove, 1801, member of the Pa. Assembly, 1836-1889, and of the House of Rep., Washington, 1842-1844, died 1872.
- YEAKLE, WILLIAM A., born 1824; resident of Whitemarsh; member of the Pennsylvania Senate, 1873; died 1888.
- ZOOK, SAMUEL K., born in Chester County, 1822; resident of Valley Forge; pioneer in building telegraph lines; general in the Civil War; lost his life in the Battle of Gettysburg.

CHAPTER X

HISTORY HIKES

*The
County
Seat*

Route—Begin Swede and Main streets, Norristown; Main street to Sandy Hill, Marshall, DeKalb, Penn, Airy, DeKalb to Basin. From Swede and Main, west on Main. Notes based on itinerary prepared,

1912, by Joseph Fornance, Esq.

Close by Swede and Main, offices formerly of The Register and The Times—the former discontinued, the latter acquired by The Herald. Overhead the elevated tracks of the Philadelphia and Western Railway, erected 1912, when Norristown celebrated its centennial. To left in the public park the soldiers' monument, built in 1869 by private contribution, with names of more than five hundred soldiers who enlisted in the Civil War, most of whom died in the service. Beyond to the right the old Montgomery House, built in part in 1804, now owned and operated by the Young Men's Christian Association. To the left a former publication office of The Herald.

The first crossroad, named for General DeKalb, is part of the historic State road from Doylestown to West Chester. The next street, Mill, leads to the old Holstein flour mill and the foundry of Newbold and Son Company. Beyond the borough limits on Ridge Turnpike, as Main street is known, Black Horse Hotel and the Seven Stars Tavern were famous public places more than a century ago.

On Sandy Hill is the "Catholic Asylum, under charge of Sisters of the Good Shepherd, formerly Oakland Female Institute, built by Rev. J. G. Ralston, who conducted a celebrated boarding school there for thirty-three years, until 1878. During that time three thousand girls were instructed. Prior to that a dwelling house stood there, built by John Markley, afterwards the residence of J. Bird Wilson, judge of this court from 1806 to 1818, who resigned his office to become rector of St John's Episcopal Church." A short distance beyond are the buildings of "Treemount Seminary, founded by Rev. Samuel Aaron and successfully conducted by him as a boys' school from 1844 to 1859. He was succeeded by Dr. John W. Loch, who was in charge of the school until 1890."

On Marshall street, former home of Judge Hamilton Gamble,

1858-1861. To keep Missouri from seceding from the Union he was prevailed on to return to his native state and served as Governor during Civil War. On DeKalb street two historic places, the Presbyterian and Lutheran Churches. On Penn street the former Borough Hall, since 1896 the property of the Montgomery County Historical Society, an organization founded in 1881 and incorporated in 1884, whose rooms should be visited. The public square and court house lots were given by the University of Pennsylvania to Montgomery county and Norristown in 1786. Penn street was opened through the unbroken tract in 1834. The old court house stood on the north corner of the square. Its front was built of marble from the Derr quarries of Upper Merion. The monument at the west corner of the court house was erected to the memory of David Rittenhouse.

On Swede street, former Rambo House, once Eagle Tavern, a public house from 1790 until acquired for office purposes by the traction companies, whose junction point is close by. On Airy street the county prison built 1851 and since enlarged, and the Veranda House are located. The City Hall and the Borough Market mark the "site of the old Academy, the famous Hill School in its day, established 1803, and continued until 1849, when it was torn down. The bank on which it stood was removed and DeKalb street was opened over its site. It fronted on Airy street." Here General Hancock, General Slemmer, Governor Hartranft and other prominent men were pupils. On DeKalb street opposite the City Hall is the Norristown Library, founded 1794. A few blocks away Basin street crossing DeKalb, marks the site of the first reservoir of the water company from 1848 to 1879. To the east on Basin street is the location of the former Keswick Institute, a girls' boarding school from 1857 to 1866, now a private residence.

Returning to Main and Swede streets and going west on Main we presently pass Cherry street, originally the western boundary of the "Town of Norris." The home of the Montgomery National Bank, the oldest bank in the county, chartered in 1814, was built of native marble. Opposite the Post Office Building, across Barbadoes street, is the Lincoln Hotel, formerly the Farmers' and Mechanics' Hotel, "an old tavern, the site of the oldest dwelling in town. In 1777, Colonel John Bull of the Continental Army, lived here. The British burned his barn, which stood just across Egypt street." Beyond are the buildings of the former Pennsylvania Farmers' Tavern. "Stages once started from here for Pottstown, Sumneytown, and Boyertown." The

Main street station marks the site of an old grist and saw mill, destroyed about 1880.

The location of the former Elmwood Institute, a boarding school for boys, 1847 to 1856, and the house built by General Andrew Porter, 1787, are on west Main street. The Porter house, the farm house of a large farm, was occupied by his family until 1821. Cemetery lane, leading to Montgomery Cemetery, passes the boyhood home of General Hancock. The first burial in Montgomery Cemetery was made in 1849; the adjoining cemetery, Riverside, was incorporated, 1894. A whole day can easily be spent in these cemeteries by history hikers studying monuments and inscriptions.

*Valley
Forge*

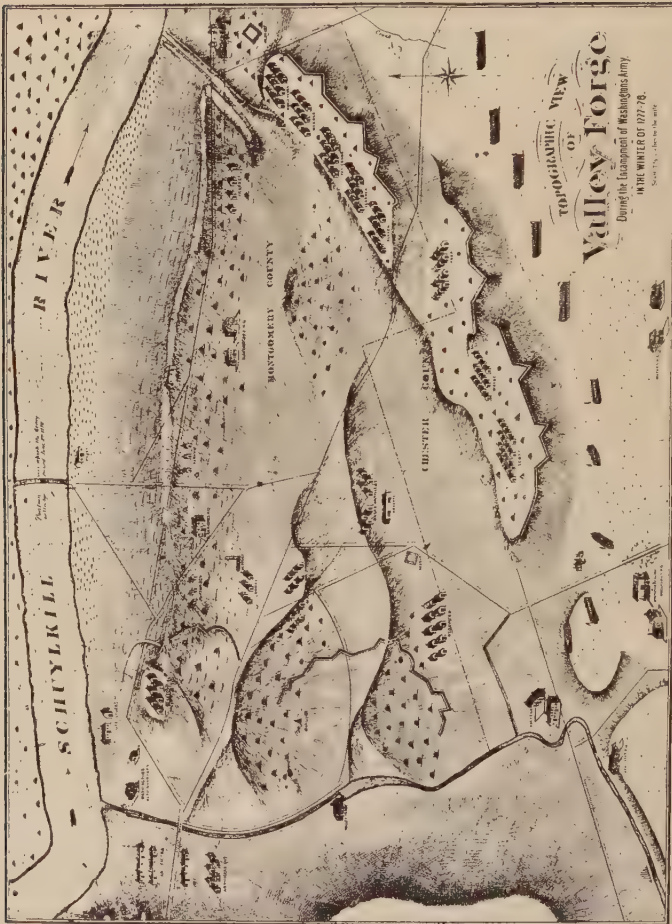
Route—Norristown, Bridgeport, King-of-Prussia, Gulf Road to Valley Forge. Points of Interest—Bridge across Schuylkill, built 1829, style of bridge once quite common, but few left. Barbadoes Island,

larger before erection of Schuylkill Navigation dam, with road from shore to shore; Swedes Ford bridge for wagons and railway, erected 1850. Bridge built here, December, 1777, of wagons along which fence rails were laid across which the barefoot Continental troops tramped on the way to winter quarters.

Bridgeport—had less than a century ago, only three houses, a tavern, a mill and the canal built 1826, once known as Evansville, carved out of Mount Joy Manor, greater part once the property of Duportail, the celebrated French military engineer of the Revolutionary War, through his neglect sold for taxes, 1804. To the left, Swedeland, settled 1696, old Swede church built 1760, Swedeland furnaces, Matsunk home of Andrew Supplee, ancestor of a numerous family.

Along King road—marble and limestone region, some of the marble used at Girard College quarried here, birthplace and home of Hon. Jonathan Roberts. Stewart Fund Hall, funds bequeathed 1808, by William Stewart, managed by Board of Trustees. On Gulph Road—leaving King-of-Prussia to left, once known as Reesville, road travelled by troops on way to Valley Forge; Port Kennedy road crossed, Chester county entered.

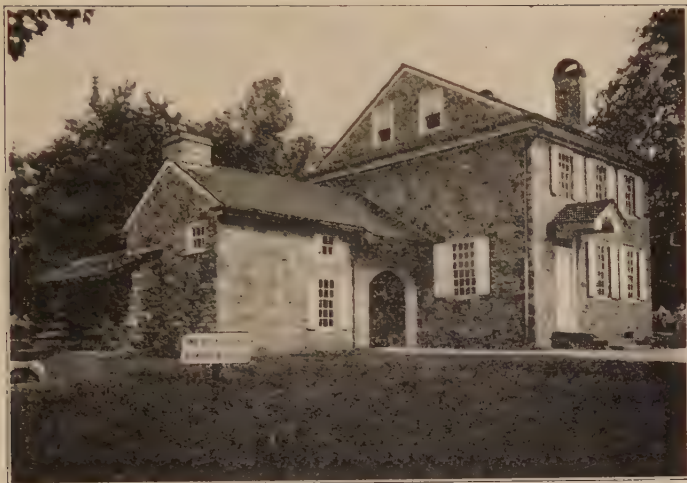
Valley Forge—sacred, historic ground of undying interest to all American citizens—among points of interest, Letitia Penn schoolhouse, hospital building, memorial chapel and Valley Forge museum, Mt. Joy Observatory, Washington Headquarters, Sullivan Bridge marker, desirable to use local guide book—trains on Reading Railroad from Valley Forge station.



TOPOGRAPHICAL VIEW OF VALLEY FORGE DURING ENCAMPMENT, 1777-1778, PUBLISHED BY "CAMP NEWS," 1887

*Gulph
to
Cynwyd*

Route—Gulph Mills: Old Gulph road—old Lancaster road—to Cynwyd. Notes are based on itinerary, prepared 1913 by S. Gordon Smyth. The Gulph was formed by the creek that has gnawed through the far reaching hills a deep and narrow passageway for itself and the



WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS, VALLEY FORGE



WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS, VALLEY FORGE—INSIDE VIEW

historic Gulph road. Here the Revolutionary army of 11,000 men encamped temporarily, December 13 to 19, 1777, after crossing the Schuylkill, while deciding where to go into winter quarters. Among the points of historic interest here are: 1. Walnut Grove; site of residence, built 1743, of John Hughes, Royal Stamp Officer at Philadelphia, 1764-65; headquarters of Washington during encampment. 2. Collegiate Institute, founded 1830, afterward an Academy of Natural Sciences where some of the prominent men of Montgomery county were educated. 3. Poplar Lane, erected 1765, home of Colonel Isaac Hughes. 4. Bird-in-Hand Tavern, kept as an inn, 1786, by John Roberts, who also operated the flour mill that stood near by. 5. Stone bridge, erected 1789. 6. Site of John Roberts' flour mill, now occupied by McFarland's mills. 7. Hanging Rock. 8. Site of Gulph grist mill, erected 1747, destroyed



THE GULPH MILLS

by fire 1895; near at hand were Brooke's auger and tilt mill and other industries. 9. Memorial, erected 1893. 10. Gulph school, site of an earlier school called The Ferris School, the college where Jonathan Roberts, our first United States senator, was educated.

Along the old Gulph road we pass a Penn mile stone with its ornamental carving of the Penn coat of arms, thirteen miles from

Philadelphia. The Green Tree Hotel along the road replaced two earlier taverns, one of which was called Three Tuns. Farther on we come to Lower Merion Baptist Church, erected about 1800, with a Charles Thomson memorial window. Close by is the Harriton estate, patented to Rowland Ellis 1689, acquired by Richard Harrison, 1719, whose daughter, Hannah, married Charles Thomson, secretary of the Continental Congress. Mill Creek, that drains the Harriton estate in a five mile course to the Schuylkill, at one time furnished water power for at least thirteen waterwheels, of which only one is now in service. Among these may be noted the Harriton flour mill; the Dove paper mill where the paper for the Continental banknotes and other government paper was made; Wynn mills, erected 1746, operated by John Roberts, the Tory, during the Revolution who was arrested for treason, tried and executed. He was previously accused of grinding glass into flour here to destroy the army at Valley Forge, but this charge was not established. Near by is the ancient cottage built under directions of Penn about 1690, with modern exterior and date in the gable.

Resuming the walk along the Gulph road, a few minutes brings us to the old Lancaster road. To the right are the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Lancaster Pike. Beyond Haverford, the seat of Haverford College, the old road turns eastward, leaving the railroad and turnpike. Southeast of Ardmore is the historic St. Paul Lutheran churchyard, in use as early as 1765, when the first church edifice was erected. Libertyville, a cluster of houses, antedates Philadelphia, and recalls the liberty poles once erected here. In 1896, the Lower Merion Chapter, D. A. R., erected a memorial stone marking the place of encampment of Washington's army on the way to Paoli, September, 1777. Lower Merion Friends' Meeting House has been a place of worship since 1695. General Wayne Hotel is near by, also the Federal Springs, an outpost of Washington's army at Valley Forge, and scene of old-time political meetings and barbecues. The Old Columbia Railroad and the old Lancaster road ran parallel from Ardmore to this point; square blocks of stone of the primitive tracks are still to be seen.

Leaving the old Lancaster road and following the Levering mill road we reach Academyville, the seat of Lower Merion Academy, founded 1812, where many prominent Montgomery countians were educated. Manayunk and Cynwyd being close by, our hike will end.

To Route—Norristown, Jeffersonville, Trooper, Eagle-
Perkiomen ville, Perkiomen Bridge.

Jeffersonville Inn, a colonial tavern, was built,
Bridge 1776, by Archibald Thomson, a Revolutionary
 soldier. After his death his widow kept the tavern. The first
 election for representatives from the county after its erection was



JEFFERSONVILLE HOTEL

held here. The road to the left is the Egypt road, leading to Audubon, Oaks, and Phoenixville.

Trooper was so called because the house to the right at the township line crossroad, a hotel, had a mounted trooper on the swinging signboard. The trolley to the right runs to Harleysville. The road to the left leads to Port Kennedy and Valley Forge. The Lower Providence Presbyterian Church on Mount Kirk, founded 1741, is a daughter of the old Norriton Presbyterian Church below Fairview. Its adjoining cemetery should be visited. The trolley line, instead of climbing, circles the hill.

Just beyond the village, Eagleville, a stop must be made to name and locate the seven counties visible on a clear day. On the way down hill to the Skippack, idling through the lowlands, a

stop should be made at the church and cemetery of the Lower Providence Baptist Church. After crossing the Skippack creek and climbing the steep hill beyond, the Evansburg road is soon reached. A mile to the right is Evansburg, once known as Hustletown, with the St. James Episcopal Church, organized 1721. During the Revolutionary War the church building, like many other church buildings, was used as a hospital; more than a hundred soldiers were buried in the adjoining cemetery. This place is located on the historic Germantown pike, which joins the Ridge pike near the old Perkiomen Bridge, completed 1799, at a cost of \$60,000. The fact that the county was reimbursed for this sum



LUTHERAN CHURCH, TRAPPE

in five years by the bridge tolls collected, gives one a conception of the amount of traffic. The Perkiomen creek, worming its way past Yerkes, Arcola and Audubon to the Schuylkill, forms the boundary between Upper and Lower Providence. Beyond the bridge is the Perkiomen Bridge Hotel dating back to 1701, and the southern terminus of the popular Gravel Pike through the Perkiomen Valley.

Perkiomen to Stowe Route—Perkiomen Bridge, Collegeville, Trappe, Limerick Square, Pottstown, Stowe. Leaving the Perkiomen, Cranberry stream, we soon cross the Perkiomen Railroad, extending from Perkiomen Junction to Allentown and opened 1875. A short distance beyond was the location of Pennsylvania Female College, established 1851,



CROOKED HILL TAVERN, ABOUT 1777

by J. W. Sunderland, authorized by charter, 1853, to grant degrees to women, and discontinued 1880. Beyond are the buildings of Ursinus College, opened 1870.

A mile beyond is Trappe, one of America's historic shrines. Here Muhlenberg lived and toiled and directed. Augustus church, erected 1743, is a reminder of old-time church architecture and conveniences. Sixty long years people worshipped here summer and

winter in an unheated building. In the adjoining cemetery rest the remains of many noted citizens.

At Limerick Square the road forks. The road to the right leads to the historic Falckner Swamp, Boyertown, and Reading. We take the road to the left, also leading to Reading by way of Pottstown. A mile beyond is Limerick Church dating back to Revolutionary days. Sanatoga lies within the famous Frankfort Land Company tract of 23,000 acres, extending across the county, which Sprogell acquired by trickery, fraud, and feeing all the Philadelphia lawyers. The old Crooked Hill, or Sanatoga Inn, where Major Andre was a prisoner of war for a time, was one of the meeting places for militia and battalion drills a century ago.

Pottstown, laid out 1752, had only a few houses and mills, including the Mill Park property, during the Revolutionary War. One of these, the home of Judge John Potts, Jr., the Tory, at High and Hanover streets, was confiscated and was bought by General Arthur St. Clair, who, while residing here, was elected to Congress and served as President of Congress, Feb. 2 to Nov. 27, 1787. The Manatawny creek, witness of the iron industry at its mouth, also saw on its banks the birth and infancy of the industry in America. Stowe, a short distance beyond, lies near the county line where our trip will end.

To
Mont Clare

Route—Jeffersonville, Audubon, Oaks, Mont Clare, by way of the Egypt road. A mile beyond Jeffersonville the township line from Trooper to Port Kennedy is passed; three miles beyond, Audubon, formerly Shannonville, is reached, noted as the home for a time of the great naturalist, J. J. Audubon. Opposite a deserted blacksmith shop is the gateway to Millgrove, the Audubon home; a little farther on, near Protectory station, the entrance to the home of his bride, Lucy Bakewell, on the tract called Fatlands, because it included what was known as the fat lands of Egypt. The Sullivan military bridge across the Schuylkill from this tract was built of piers of logs erected in the river on which the timbers were placed and fastened with wooden pins. The structure, erected for the benefit of the Valley Forge encampment and crossed by the army on leaving, lasted only about a year. The marker erected by river boatmen in early days, was replaced, 1907, by one erected by the Montgomery County Historical Society.

Farther on, the ruins of the historic lead and copper mines are passed. The Perkiomen is crossed on a high bridge which

merits study. The Perkiomen Railroad to the left, crosses the Pennsylvania Railroad and then the Schuylkill river into Chester county, joining the main line at the Pawling bridge. Almost two centuries ago farmers and fishermen had a scrap here. The fishermen had erected pens in the river to catch shad, but the pens caught also the laden canoes of the farmers floating down the river. The farmers after attacking the pens retreated to the mouth of the Perkiomen, where they grounded their canoes. The fishermen destroyed the canoes, repaired their pens, and caught shad as before.

Beyond Oaks a road to the left leads to Port Providence, an important business place in the canal boat era. Mont Clare, opposite Phoenixville, the iron town, ends our hike. At the Fountain Inn, a noteworthy building in Phoenixville, is an important historic marker with the words: "The Farthest Inland Point Reached in the British Invasion of the Northern Colonies during the Revolutionary War, September 21-23, 1777."

Trooper Route--Trooper, Fairview, Worcester, Skippack,
to Harleysville, Salford. To cover this outing use of
Salford trolley line to Harleysville is necessary in absence of
 other conveyance. After leaving Trooper, car follows township line several miles, then turns to the left. Stone quarry marks location of dwelling where Christopher Sauer, Jr., the printer, spent the evening of his life, following the exile from his home.

At Fairview village a visit must be made to the historic Norriton Presbyterian building and cemetery. These merit study even though surroundings have been changed and tombstones destroyed. The grounds were originally part of the Rittenhouse farm where David Rittenhouse spent his boyhood days, erected his observatory, and studied the transit of Venus. North of the village are the Methacton Mennonite Meeting House and cemetery, where the bones of Christopher Sauer, Jr., and many other worthies repose. Along the Fairview ridge the statue of William Penn on the one side and the Berks hills on the other side may be seen.

Near the Center Point (or Worcester) creamery, well-kept farm buildings mark the former home of Hon. Frederick Conrad, a prominent citizen in his day. At Center Point our course changes to the Skippack road laid out more than two centuries ago. Here are reminders of Peter Wentz, a prominent pioneer: the Wentz homestead (now Schultz), Washington's headquarters

in '77, when the army was encamped a few miles to the north-east, the Wentz private burying ground, Wentz's Church, which we pass presently. Washington's army passed through this place on its way to Germantown.

Skippackville is an old settlement and a newspaper town for more than half a century. It had its licensed inn, 1742, the nearest up-country public house ten miles away. Not far distant is the Lower Skippack Mennonite Meeting House, built on land presented by Van Bebber, the proprietor—the original building being the second Mennonite place of worship erected in America. Here Christopher Dock taught, prayed, and died praying. A few miles up-stream along the Skippack was the church erected on lands of Jacob Reiff, whose membership disbanded to be embodied in other



NORRITON HOME OF DAVID RITTENHOUSE

church organizations. The country along our route, part of the far-reaching Salford district and under cultivation well-nigh two hundred years, does not figure as prominently in events and men as some other communities.

Leaving Skippackville, passing through Lederachville, we reach Harleysville, the trolley terminus on the Maxatawny or North Wales or Springhouse and Sumneytown turnpike. Turn-

ing northward we will be interested in Indian creek as marking the home of the well known antiquarian and historian, the late Abraham H. Cassel. Branchville will interest because it used to be a transfer station in stageline days, the lighter coaches coming from the Upper End being exchanged for more capacious ones to continue the trip to North Wales. A mile beyond at the foot of a hill, Captain Philip Gable of Revolutionary fame resided. The road to the left leads to Woxall and the Old Goshenhoppen Church. The building itself has been renovated but back of it nestles the humble schoolhouse with its school-day memories. The inscriptions on the tombstones and the tablets in the church wall will be of interest. A few minutes' walk brings us to Salford station for our homeward trip.



HOME OF SAMUEL BERTOLET, FREDERICK TOWNSHIP
Staff Headquarters, September 18-26, 1777

*Lucon
to
Swamp*

Route—Lucon, Schwenksville, Zieglerville, Obelisk, Stetler's store, Fagleysville. Our route lies part way along the road laid out, 1726, from Lucon to Layfield extending the Skippack road laid out 1713. Schwenksville is comparatively young as a community, although

two tracts in the vicinity, supposed to be rich in ores, were patented as early as 1701. Hans Joost Hite, the Dutchman, erected here a flour and grist mill, 1730, to which Peter Pennebecker added a fulling mill, 1775. These, known as the Pennypacker mills, became famous in connection with Washington's headquarters, 1777, while thousands of troops encamped in and around Schwenksville.

To our right is Spring Mount, and beyond it the hundred-acre tract that Dock, the teacher, owned for a number of years. The station, Zieglerville, is a mile distant from the village by that name, located at the fork of two historic roads. The location



WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS

Home of the late Samuel Whittaker Pennypacker, Schwenksville, Pa.

must have brought business to the place before the railroad era. Our route brings us past the Mennonite Home, once Frederick Institute, antedating the public-school system. Stetler's store is central to a community that has been historic well-nigh two-hundred years. A noted road from Bucks to Chester county passes by. A mile and a half to the left were the home of Henry Antes, and the Antes-Heebner mill, erected 1736. The Moravian Church was active here. The Continental troops encamped close by. Opposite the store was the birthplace of Chester David Hartranft, who earned international reputation as historian and theologian.

Once potteries abounded, makers of earthenware now bringing fabulous prices.

Our next objective point, Fagleysville on the historic road from Perkiomen Bridge to Falckner Swamp, is close by the so-called Swamp Gate and was in the midst of Camp Pottsgrove in Revolutionary days. To the west is the birthplace of General John F. Hartranft. Two miles northwest are the historic Lutheran and Reformed Churches of the Swamp. These are on the Frankfort Land Company tract beyond which lies the tract presented to William Penn's son, John, in 1701, who sold it to a Philadelphia merchant, George McCall, after which for many years it was known as McCall manor. The trolley line terminus is at Boyertown, whose iron ore played an important part in the early industries of the county.

We start at Custer station where Rev. George Wack lived and labored and where in earlier days Andrew Knox resided on the Cassel farm, appointed by Washington to prevent supplies being carried to General Howe. By going northeast on the township-line road and southeast on the Yost road, we come to a mill on Stony creek, the old Yost homestead, where in days of yore, sickles, scythes, and guns were manufactured. Close by lived Isaac McGlathery, guide to the Continental troops on their way to Germantown.

Resuming the township line road we reach the Skippack road and turn to the left uphill to Bethel Church to visit the grave of Peter Supplee, whose young life was sacrificed in the Revolutionary War. Not far away lived David Wagner, friend of Jemima Wilkinson, the noted religious enthusiast, under whose influence he joined others in founding Penn Yan, New York.

St. John's Lutheran Church was a military hospital during the Revolutionary War; the unfortunate soldiers were laid to rest in a trench grave in the adjoining cemetery. Where the State road crosses the Skippack road, a hotel, the "Wagon Inn," did business, 1759. Here part of Washington's army detoured. Here President Cleveland was greeted on his way to visit the Singerly farms. The Wentz (now Titlow) house, built 1763 and named the "Rising Sun Inn," was known as "The Wheat Market," because wheat was bought and sold here in early times. The High School building, a little beyond, houses the Whitpain library of several thousand volumes, founded 1817.

Boehm's Reformed Church, founded 1740, also cared for wounded soldiers in Revolutionary days. Broad Axe once was the scene of many friendly horse races along the level Ambler road. A toss of hats decided whose horses ran; away they went, dust flying, farmers roosting on the fences, chewing, and cheering. Dawesfield, along the road between Blue Bell and Broad Axe, built 1736, and a Washington headquarters, must be visited. The army, encamped in the vicinity, brought distress to the inhabitants. Ambler, the thrifty young borough, is close by, where the outing must end.

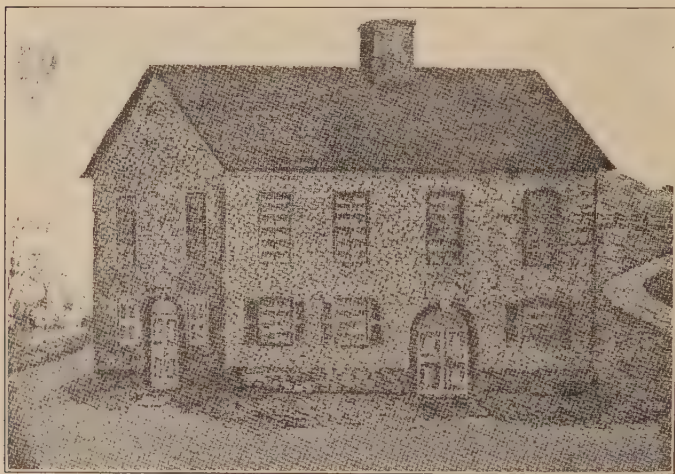
Greenlane Route—Greenlane, Red Hill,, Pennsburg, East
to Greenville, Palm. Greenlane, young as a borough,
Palm is a community saw the Maybury family begin the
 iron industry, 1730, where the icehouse is located,
 pig iron being brought from the Durham furnace in upper Bucks county. The Lodge hall marks the graveyard of the slave toilers. The Schall family that built the stately dwelling house opposite the old hotel, revived the iron industry, 1833, after a period of neglect and decay.

Where the Bucks-Chester road crosses the Maxatawny or North Wales road, old Matthias Scheifele kept a hotel. Along this crossroad about a mile to the northeast and a short distance beyond its intersection with the old Macungie or Hoppenville road, was the home of immigrant Tobias Hartranft, ancestor of a widely scattered family.

Sumneytown was named for Isaac Sumney, who kept a hotel in the fork of the road. Close by Enos Benner was operating a printing press almost a century ago. Here a hundred and fifty years ago and more, a great road traffic passed and crossed. Two streams of water meet here that once furnished power for a score of gunpowder, saw, grist and fulling mills, the places of nearly all of which are ruins now. Meetings of prominent citizens were held here, 1831, in the interest of a railroad between the county seat and the Lehigh Valley. Nestling by the hillside is the homestead of the Hiester family, built 1757.

Returning to Greenlane and taking the train we soon pass Red Hill on our left and St. Paul's Lutheran Church to the right, known many years as the Six-Cornered Church on account of the shape of the second of the church edifices erected. Close by is the old Oberly mill property acquired by the Hillegass family before the year 1740.

The towns of the upper end, strung bead-like along the old Greenlane and Goshenhoppen turnpike, Red Hill, Pennsburg, East Greenville, and Palm, situated in agricultural communities settled almost two hundred years ago, are of comparatively recent growth. Pennsburg, through the influence of Perkiomen School, enjoys a Carnegie Library, which houses a unique museum and library, the Schwenkfeld Historical Library, well worth visiting. Near East Greenville is located the historic New Goshenhoppen Reformed Church, with its extensive cemeteries. Among the noted



NEW GOSHENHOPPEN REFORMED CHURCH, BUILT 1771

pastors who have served this congregation, was the Reverend John Peter Miller, who afterwards became prominent in the cloister at Ephrata, Lancaster county. It was he who translated the Declaration of Independence into seven languages and who made the memorable and successful winter journey to George Washington to ask pardon for his worst enemy. In the oldest of the adjoining cemeteries lie the remains of David Shultz, the prominent surveyor, scrivener, and general-utility man, with his two wives, the first of whom was murdered by a redemptioner. To the northeast of East Greenville is Kraussdale, made famous by the musical instruments built by the Krausses. Palm, a few miles

beyond East Greenville, lies near the boundary line between Montgomery and Berks counties. Several miles southwest from Palm is located Bally, one of the oldest Catholic parishes in the United States, part of the present buildings dating back to 1743.

Gwynedd to Telford Route—Gwynedd, Kulpsville, Hatfield, Souderton, Telford. Gwynedd Friends' Meeting House was the third place of worship established in the county—Lower Merion and Abington alone being earlier.

The meeting house was used as a hospital during the Revolutionary War and soldiers were buried in the adjoining cemetery. The place was known as Acuff's Tavern. A post office was established here, 1830. Below North Wales a cemetery marks the location of a former place of worship, St. Peter's, a union of Reformed and Lutheran Churches. North Wales is a comparatively young community, the railroad completed 1856 having helped to start and develop it.

A short distance beyond the Wissahickon bridge the old Allentown road branches off to the right.. At the fork a hotel was doing business as early as 1779. Two miles west is the southwest corner of Towamencin township. Here, at the home of Christopher Wiegner, were the first American headquarters of the Moravian Church; here Spangenberg lived, Zinzendorf and Whitefield preached, and the Associated Brethren of the Skippack held religious gatherings. Close by, the Schwenkfelders opened a school in 1765, for which they had created an endowment fund. The Revolutionary army encamped in this vicinity. Kulpsville and the Mennonite Meeting House and cemetery, where General Nash and other Revolutionary soldiers are buried, lie a few miles to the north.

Along the Allentown road, a few miles beyond the aforementioned forks, there were in 1849 White's Inn and post office, while Lansdale with its urban air and dress, situated a mile to the east, was not even dreamed of. We are in Hatfield township, which probably was the highwater mark for incursions by foraging parties of Lord Howe while wintering in Philadelphia, 1777-78. The township does not abound in noteworthy historic landmarks as some other townships, nor does it have historic churches because the early residents, some of whom were Welsh, worshipped in churches outside the township limits. The district seems to have been shunned by pioneers because the soil was regarded sterile. On account of slowness of settlement Indians probably remained

here longer than in some other communities, a few lingering in the neighborhood of the borough of Hatfield as late as the Revolutionary War.

Franconia Square and Franconiaville, old settlements of arrested growth, have been far outstripped by the youthful boroughs along the railroad. Souderton in 1849 was marked on the map, Souder's Lumberyard. The nearest post office, Bilger's, was west of the cowpath road on the road leading from Franconia Square to Telford on the county line which has been making history well-nigh two-hundred years. The name cowpath road harks back to the day when the cattle of the Welsh pioneers wandered through the forests to pasture land. The oldest churches of the community are the Franconia Mennonite that erected its first meeting house between 1730 and 1750, the Indianfield Lutheran that erected a log place of worship about 1730 and the Reformed Church on Indian creek, founded 1753. These are within easy walking distance of Souderton, where this hike must end.



FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE, PLYMOUTH
Destroyed by fire 1867, rebuilt

*To
Barren
Hill*

Route—Norristown, Hickorytown, Plymouth Meeting, Conshohocken. We proceed by trolley to save time and strength. Hickorytown on the Germantown pike organized a company for protection against horse-stealing, 1807, and was one of the training places for the

State militia and battalion drills. Plymouth Meeting was established as early as 1691, although a prior settlement had been made and abandoned. Here wounded soldiers were quartered; teachers, wielding rods and goose-quill pens, taught the young in the octagonal schoolhouse with desks ranged along the walls; horse blocks for lady worshippers graced the yard. Here Hovenden painted "Breaking the Home Ties." Yonder are graves two centuries old.

At Marble Hall less than two miles away, old Patrick Menan taught school many years ago. The Hitners of this place in 1851 donated to Pennsylvania a block of pure white marble on which the State coat of arms and Penn's treaty with the Indians were then carved; two thousand people met to view the finishing carving and listen to an address by the Governor of the State, after which it was forwarded to Washington and embodied in the Washington monument as the contribution of the Keystone State.



HOVENDEN STUDIO

We proceed by trolley to Conshohocken, a borough since 1850, that dates its large manufacturing interests from 1830 when David Harry built his grist mill. Two years later James Wood built his rolling mill. Here was the Matson Ford of early days, where part of Washington's army crossed, September, 1777. Stationed

on yonder hills beyond the fine new memorial bridge, British troops checked the Continentals, December, 1777, and General Poor's battery in turn checked the British following the fleeing Lafayette, May, 1778.

Our next objective point is Spring Mill, where Peter Legaux, the noted Frenchman, experimented in grape culture. Hither farmers brought wheat to pay quit-rents, to the mill dating from 1715, whose power was derived from the stream of water flowing from bubbling springs a fourth of a mile away.



HOPE LODGE, WHITEMARSH

Two miles eastward lies Barren Hill, rich in historic events. Here a parochial school was opened, 1758, and a church building erected, 1761-65. Here British and Continental troops encamped, alternately. The people who worshipped here were robbed of horses, cows, sheep, and hogs by Howe's marauders. Here Lafayette, under twenty-one, was stationed, May, 1778, with 2100 troops.

The British, 7000 strong, almost encircled and entrapped him and his men, but they slipped away and made their escape past Spring Mill and Matson Ford to the hills west of the Schuylkill. The valiant seven thousand returned to Philadelphia, in the words of Lafayette, "very tired, very much ashamed and very much laughed at."



HOPE LODGE, WHITEMARSH, INSIDE VIEW

*Wheelpump
Spring-
house* Route—Erdenheim, Flourtown, Fort Washington, Ambler, Springhouse. Erdenheim, the junction point of two trolley systems, a post office named after a noted stockfarm, was formerly known as Heydrickdale on account of families living here, also as Wheelpump on account of the pump used at the old tavern, the Washington Hotel. Springfield township, with its former unique Schuyl-

kill river panhandle, was laid out for Penn's first wife and consequently not transferred to private owners as early as other townships. Flourtown, where the ancient and modern houses are next-door neighbors was so named because pioneers came to the mills on the Wissahickon close by for their flour.

The village Whitemarsh and vicinity are noteworthy historic ground. Its lime has enjoyed a national reputation many decades. Here the Farmars and Sculls, pioneer families, lived. Here Indian councils were held. Here is Hope Lodge, built 1721, with its marvelous interior and charming story. Here is St. Thomas Church served by the rector of the Oxford Church, for whose convenience the church road is said to have been laid out. Here Whitefield preached to an audience of more than two thousand in 1740. Here the Morris brothers founded a school in pre-Revolution-



FRIENDS' MEETINGHOUSE, HORSHAM

ary days for whose maintenance a fund was created that is still intact. Here on the surrounding hills Continental troops were encamped, with Washington's headquarters at the Emlen house, from October 20 to December 11, 1777, when they broke camp for Valley Forge.

Beyond Fort Washington we pass from Whitemarsh into Upper Dublin township, once a part of Abington township. Non-resident ownership checked settlement originally at the northwestern end, although lime-burning was carried on at Fitzwatertown before 1705.

Ambler, flourishing in the western corner of the township, developed since the opening of the railroad in 1856, could muster only 251 inhabitants as late as 1880. In early days the Wissahickon mills here did a thriving business. The trolley line that left the old turnpike to zigzag through the borough, turns eastward on the old Butler pike to resume its northward course on the old Gwynedd road to Springhouse and beyond.

To Route—Springhouse, Maple Glen, Horsham, Graeme
Graeme Park. Springhouse is historic. After viewing the
Park traffic and the teeming towns along the old high-
 way it is hard to realize that once a rude stone
house by a well had to serve as a landmark to the lone
traveler in the untamed forests. One sees in imagination caravans of Conestogas passing and repassing between the county's metropolis, Philadelphia, and the Lehigh Valley and points beyond; another stream crossing and recrossing between Chester Valley and the west and the Delaware river and the east; while staid Friends come and go to visit relatives and meet for divine worship. Arrested growth has been the fate of the place.

To the northwest lies Gwynedd Meeting House with its sacred memories; to the southwest, Penllyn on the North Penn Railroad, close by the place where the pioneer, Edward Foulke, located; northward runs the old Bethlehem road, in use two centuries. One mile out we reach Montgomery township, whose name in use here two hundred years, recalls Roger de Montgomery of the eleventh century. Montgomery Square, with its incorporated library, was the birthplace of Sam Medary, of Ohio, and of our W. S. Hancock. Beyond are Montgomeryville, a historic Baptist Church, and Colmar on the Doylestown Railroad near which a famous school, founded by the bequests of John Jenkins, flourished many years. To the east runs the old Welsh road, passing from Lower Gwynedd into Upper Dublin and then into Horsham township. At Three Tuns, probably named from its hotel sign, a road to the right leads to Puff's corner, on Susquehanna street, made historic by the

Lutheran Church, dating back to 1753. At Maple Glen the Whitehall pike, midway between the Easton and Bethlehem roads, is



SIR WILLIAM KEITH
Governor (1717-1726)

passed, leading northward into Bucks county, southward to Philadelphia through Jarrettown, Dreshertown, Fitzwatertown, all reminders of early families.

Two miles beyond Maple Glen the historic road from Horsham Meeting House to Hatfield township is reached. A mile to the southeast is the Horsham Friends' Meeting House, an old landmark, on the historic Easton road, connecting Easton by way of Doylestown and Philadelphia by way of Willow Grove. Settlement in the vicinity of the meeting house was made by the Palmers, 1683, and by Iredells and Lukenses about 1709 or 1710. The first house of worship was built 1718-1721; the present, 1803. A school, instituted here 1753, was conducted continuously and successfully until 1922.

Two miles north the county line cuts the road. Graeme Park lies less than a mile to the northwest along the borders of the county. Here Sir William Keith, Lieutenant-Governor of Pennsylvania, built a substantial dwelling house, 1722, known as Graeme Park, on a twelve-hundred acre tract acquired a few years previously. Dr. Thomas Graeme, a distinguished Philadelphia physician, whose wife was the daughter of the wife of Sir William

Keith, acquired the property. His daughter, Elizabeth, married Hugh Henry Ferguson, a Scotchman, 1759, who sided with the British in the Revolutionary War and was attainted of treason.



GRAEME PARK, BUILT BY SIR WILLIAM KEITH, 1721

The property was by special legislative act vested in the wife who had remained loyal, but had quite a checkered career.

*Old
York
Road*

Route—LaMott, Ogontz, Jenkintown, Abington, Willow Grove, Hatboro. Old York road, the early route from Philadelphia to New York, one of the historic and important highways of Pennsylvania, passes through three townships and two boroughs. The first point of interest beyond city limits is a settlement of modest dwellings on the west side of York road, LaMott, named for Lucretia Mott, whose home was near by. This is in Cheltenham township, a name probably given by Toby Leech, an early settler, who erected a mill on the Tacony in the neighborhood of Ogontz, known in earlier days as Shoemakertown, named for the Shoemaker family, who owned the millsite where the road crosses the Tacony. The

first mill at this place, known as a "corn-grist water-mill," was erected, 1746. Near the crossing of church road which passes through Ogontz, and Washington lane, was the home of Jay Cooke,



LIBRARY BUILDING, HATBORO

the noted financier. The home of the late John Wanamaker is also to the left at the southern borders of Jenkintown.

This place was named for William Jenkins, the pioneer settler of the region. East of the borough is the Abington Friends' Meeting House, the ground for which was included in a tract of 180 acres, deeded, 1697, to the Friends' Meeting for religious and educational purposes. Later a school was established, which is still being conducted. Jenkintown is also the home of the Abington library, founded 1803, and is noted for its educational institutions.

Abington township, one of the original townships, out of which Jenkintown was carved, is crossed near the middle by the York road. The village of Abington, an old settlement once known as Moorestown, is the place of worship of the Abington Presbyterian Church, founded 1714. In the cemetery by the roadside are the graves of Malachi Jones, the first pastor of the church, of Gilbert Tennent, of Samuel Finley, the fifth president of Princeton college, and other noted men of early days.

Willow Grove, at the south corner of Upper Moreland, is the next point of interest. Here since pioneer days important streams of traffic have been meeting and diverging. Here, more than one hundred and fifty years ago, a hotel having accommodations for nearly a hundred horses and claiming to be the best hotel stand between Philadelphia and the Delaware river, was offered for sale. Here in the heyday of staging five stage lines passed daily. Here men came to get their mail at the post office in 1816. Here in the drug store building a shot tower was once in successful operation.

East of Willow Grove, in the region of the historic Pennypack, are Bethayres, Huntingdon Valley, and Bryn Athyn.

Two miles beyond Willow Grove is Hatboro, once known from the hotel sign as Crooked Billet. When John Dawson, the hatter, the first settler, built his house, his daughter, Anne, carried mortar in a tow apron. When Anne was married father took her to church on horseback and the husband took her to her new home the same way. Hatboro has the oldest library in the county. Robert Collyer, who closed his life career as pastor of the wealthiest congregation in the United States, in his younger days served as local preacher of the Methodist church at Milestown, worked at the Hammond tool works in Cheltenham township and walked to Hatboro to make use of the library. Loller Academy, founded by Robert Loller and erected 1812, is used for public school purposes. During the Revolutionary War, General Lacey was stationed here to protect the interests of the colonists. The British tried to capture him, May 1, 1778. In the skirmish thirty of his men were killed and seventeen wounded. A monument recalls the event.



STRAW AND HICKORY BASKETS, MUSEUM OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CHAPTER XI

NOTES ON NAMES

NOTE:—The following brief notes are inserted to encourage a study of the history of names. It must not be overlooked that some local names were selected or newly coined to meet postal requirements that names of postoffices are to be short, single, easy to pronounce, and unlike other names. The Smithsonian Institution supplied interpretations of Indian names which are marked S and enclosed in parentheses.

ABINGTON—parish in England; early names of, Milltown, Hilltop, Shepherd's.

ABRAMS—family name, Abraham.

AMBLER—named in honor of Mary J. Ambler, a widow, for services rendered in connection with a very serious railroad accident, 1856; early name of, Wissahickon.

AMITYVILLE—early name for Lucon.

ARCOLA—a small Italian town in Northern Italy; early name of, Doe Run.

ARDMORE—an Irish name, the high moor or tract of wild ground.

ASHBOURNE—a place in England; early name of, Bountytown.

ATHENSVILLE—early name for Bryn Mawr or Ardmore.

AUDUBON—named for John J. Audubon, the naturalist; early name of, Shannonville.

BALA—Welsh, place in Wales, meaning a shoot or budding.

BALLYGOMINGO (Balligo)—early name of Gulph.

BARREN HILL—probably on account of narrow ridge of barren soil near church.

BELFRY—perhaps on account of the belfry of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, a few hundred yards below.

BETHAYRES—"On the completion of the railroad to New York in 1876, the station was called Bethayres, a contraction of Elizabeth Ayres, who was born here, and the mother of one of the directors of the improvement."—W. J. Buck.

BIRD-IN-HAND—early name for Gulph Mills, from hotel sign.

BLUEBELL—probably on account of the hotel sign.

BRIDGEPORT—probably on account of the DeKalb Street bridge.

BRYN ATHYN—Welsh, from Bryn, hill or mount; Athyn, very tenacious, cohesive, or Eithan, name of plant.

BRYN MAWR—Welsh, Great Hill.

CAMP HILL—used as camping ground in Revolutionary War.

CHELTENHAM—parish and borough in England, home of Toby Leech, an early settler.

CONESTOGA—an Indian name meaning the great magic land. (At the place of the muddy or oily water—S.)

CONGO—early name of, Cedarville; chosen because it is easy to spell and pronounce.

CONSHOHOCKEN—an Indian name meaning pleasant valley, known as Edge Hill. (At the briar land or land overgrown with briars—S.)

CROOKED HILL—so named on account of the peculiar formation of the hills, early name for Sanatoga.

CUSTER—a family name.

CYNWYD—Welsh, meaning evil, destructive.

DOUGLASS—a town and river in Scotland.

DRESHERTOWN—family name.

EAGLEVILLE—"A large eagle was shot in the vicinity and nailed to one of the buildings. From this incident the village received its name." (T. W. Bean.)

EAST GREENVILLE—named Greenville on account of a tree at the upper end of the borough; named East Greenville to distinguish from Greenville in Western Pennsylvania.

ELM—early name of Narberth.

EDGE HILL—structure of rock or edge of limestone section.

EVANSBURG—family name, Edward Evans first postmaster, 1825.

FAGLEYSVILLE—probably a family name.

FLOURTOWN—tradition says that the early settlers came here to mill with their grain from whence the name originated.

FRANCONIA—an old duchy of the Germanic Empire.

FREDERICK—Frederick William, King of Prussia.

FREELAND—early name for Collegeville.

GLADWYNE—early name of, Merion Square.

GLASGOW—place in Scotland.

GILBERT, Manor of—early name for Providence in honor of William Penn's mother.

GILBERTSVILLE—family name.

GOSHENHOPPEN—(the wonderful tuber or tubers—S).

GREENLANE—on account of the foliage of the trees growing along the road in the vicinity.

GULPH—probably so named because surrounded by hills.

GWYNEDD—Welsh, meaning the white land.

- HARLEYSVILLE—named for Samuel Harley, who built a tavern here 1790, marking the beginning of the village.
- HATBORO—place where hats are made.
- HATFIELD—either an early family name or a town and parish in England.
- HAVERFORD—Welsh, meaning goat's ford.
- HENDRICKS—probably a family name.
- HEYDRICKDALE—family name; locality in Springfield, south of Flourtown.
- HILL—an early name for Abington, on account of Philip Hill, an early landholder.
- HOFFMANSVILLE—a family name.
- HOPPENVILLE—(seemingly a hybrid word, meaning "tuber" ville—S).
- HORSHAM—parish and borough in England, home of Samuel Carpenter, an early extensive landholder.
- HOSENSACK—(small clay pots—S).
- HUMPHREYVILLE—early name of Bryn Mawr and vicinity for David Humphrey an early settler.
- JARRETTOWN—a family name.
- JEFFERSONVILLE—from hotel sign, a portrait of Thomas Jefferson.
- JENKINTOWN—named for Stephen Jenkins, an early settler.
- KING-OF-PRUSSIA—from sign of hotel kept here 1736.
- KLINESVILLE—a family name.
- KNEEDLER—named for Henry Kneedler, who owned property there.
- KRATZ—family name.
- KULPSVILLE—family name.
- LANCASTERVILLE—family name; early name of, Wrangletown on account of disputes.
- LEDERACHSVILLE—named for Henry Lederach, who built the first house here, 1825.
- LIMERICK—city and county in Ireland.
- LIBERTYVILLE—an early name for Wynnwood.
- LINFIELD—early name of, Limerick.
- LOCUST CORNER—Crossroad on Morris Road between Towamencin and Upper Gwynedd.
- LUCON—specially coined word.
- LUMBERVILLE—early name for Port Providence.
- MACOBY—(large turbid or reddish water—S).

- MANATAWNY—Indian, meaning where we drank. (Ill-smelling village—S.)
- MANAYUNK—Indian, meaning where we go to drink. (At the worthless place—S.)
- MARLBOROUGH—named for the Duke of Marlborough.
- MAXATAWNY—Indian, meaning bear's path stream. (Bear's foot village or stream—S.)
- McLEANS—family name.
- MELROSE—a town in Scotland.
- MERION—Welsh, Merioneth in Wales.
- METHACTON—Indian name of hill in Lower Providence (?) (at the evil hill or mountain—S.).
- MINGO—an Indian term meaning stealthy or treacherous. (A gross name given by the Delaware and cognate tribes to Iroquoian people, and specifically to the Conestoga—S.)
- MONTGOMERY—the township Montgomery settled by immigrants from Montgomeryshire, Wales, was named for Roger de Montgomery, a Norman knight, whose castle, built 1095, was destroyed by the Welsh; the county Montgomery was named either for the above reason or in honor of General Richard Montgomery who fell in the Revolutionary War—possibly the two members of the Penna. Assembly by this name fostered the idea.
- MORELAND—named for Nicholas Moore, a prominent early officeholder and the proprietor of the Manor of Moreland which included Moreland Township, and part of Philadelphia county.
- MOORETOWN—early name of Village of Abington from name of keeper of tavern, Mary Moore.
- MORWOOD—early name of, Gehman; from Mor for Levi P. Morton and wood, woods surrounding the place.
- MOUNT KIRK—hill on which Lower Providence Presbyterian Church is located.
- NIANTIC—Indian, meaning at a point of land on a tidal river. (Angle or point of water—S.)
- NARBERTH—Na-berth, not beautiful. (?)
- NEIFFER—family name.
- NESHAMINY—an Indian name, meaning a double stream. (A double stream or a confluence of two streams—S.)
- OAKS—probably on account of trees.
- OBELISK—early name of, Roseville; name suggested by picture on box of paper collars.

- OGONTZ—name of an Indian chief, who was a friend of Jay Cooke in his childhood.
- OLETHEHO—an Indian name for the land at the mouth of the Perkiomen.
- PAWLING—family name.
- PENCOYD—Welsh, Pennychlawd, the place from which John Roberts, ancestor of the Roberts family, migrated.
- PENLLYN—Welsh, meaning the beginning of a stream.
- PENNYPACK—Indian, meaning deep, dead water. (Fallen rock or cross-lake—S.)
- PERKIOMEN—an Indian name meaning cranberry place. (Place of cranberries, cranberries—S.)
- PIGEONTOWN—an early name for Blue Bell.
- PLYMOUTH—a place in England.
- PORT KENNEDY—named for the founder of the place, Alexander Kennedy (1761-1824).
- POTTSGROVE—family name.
- POTTSTOWN—named for John Potts, the founder.
- PROSPECTVILLE—so named on account of the fine, natural scenery.
- PROVIDENCE—so named either on account of Providence, Rhode Island, or Providence Island, of the West Indies from which early settlers came.
- RED HILL—so named on account of the nature of the soil.
- REESVILLE—early name for King-of-Prussia.
- ROCKLEDGE—probably so named on account of the ledges of rock which affected early efforts at well digging; early name of Shady Dale.
reyville.
- ROSEMONT—Welsh, meaning Great Hill—early name of, Humphreyville.
- RYDAL—place in England.
- SALFORD—name of town and parishes in England.
- SANATOGA—an Indian name.
- SASSAMANSVILLE—family name.
- SCHWENKSVILLE—family name.
- SCHUYLKILL—Dutch, meaning concealed river, called by the Delaware Indians Ganshowehanna, the roaring stream.
- SCIOTA—an Indian name.
- SHAINLINE—family name.
- SHANNONVILLE—named for Robert Shannon, the early name for Audubon.

SKIPPACK—an Indian name meaning stagnant stream. (Artichoke—S.)

SORREL HORSE—from hotel sign.

SOUDERTON—family name.

SPANGTOWN—early name for Engleville.

SPRINGHOUSE—a house built over a spring.

SUMNEYTOWN—named for Isaac Sumney, an early landholder, and innkeeper.

STOWE—name of early landholder in vicinity.

SWAMP—early name for village and surrounding country, New Hanover.

TACONY—an Indian name, Tawocawomink; Tacony (in the forest—S); Tawocawomink (at the broad land—S).

THREE TUNS—from an old tavern sign, three casks or tuns.

TOWAMENCIN—an Indian name. In the petition for the establishment of the Township occurred the words: "The desire of the subscribers is that the township may be called Towamencin, being the Indian name of the creek that springs and runs through the same." (Poplar trees—S.)

TROOPER—from a hotel sign, a mounted trooper.

TREWIGTOWN—named for Andrew Trewig, an innkeeper, another name, Hatfield Square.

VERNFIELD—named for Verner G. Nyce, by his father, A. H. Nyce, the postmaster.

VILLA NOVA—Italian, meaning new villa or home; named for a town in Spain.

WHITEMARSH—either the name of a parish in England or wide marsh or marsh of white earth, early name Farmarstown.

WHITPAIN—family name.

WILLOW GROVE—willow trees; early names of, Roundmeadow, Pigtown.

WISSAHICKON—an Indian name meaning Catfish stream (black oak or yellow stream—S).

WORCESTER—city and county in England.

WOXALL—corruption of Noxall.

WYNNEWOOD—named for Dr. Thomas Wynne, an early settler.

YERKES—named for Isaac Yerkes, a landowner.

ZACHARIAS CREEK, named for Zacharias Whitpain, an early settler.

ZIEGLERVILLE—family name.

CHAPTER XII

THE MAP OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The basis of this map is the topographical map of the United States in preparation since 1882 by the United States Geological Survey, supplemented by data collated by the author—in part from maps issued by the State Highway Department of Pennsylvania.

The scale of the map is 1: 62,500, or nearly one inch of map to one mile of ground.

Township and borough lines are indicated by broken lines made conspicuous by colored border. Roads are indicated by double lines; railroads by double lines with cross lines; buildings (as of 1895) by small black squares.

All water features are shown in blue.

The irregular contour lines printed in brown indicate points of the same altitude above mean sea level instrumentally determined, the elevation in feet being shown by the figures accompanying the lines. The elevation of some definite points are also given. The intervals between adjacent contour lines signify twenty feet in elevation.

The figures accompanying the roads refer to the numbers in the following tabulated data respecting said roads. This table merely gives a few facts of some of the roads confirmed prior to the formation of the county, 1784; no attempt being made to enumerate all roads so confirmed or to give data as to roads having been changed, vacated, relocated or finally abandoned. A study of the table will enable one to get a more vivid conception of the gradual settlement of the county. The date of confirmation, and the location are followed by self-explanatory matter. The placing of an "S" after a number indicates that it is the route number of the roads as given on the State Road Map issued June, 1922.

1—1687—PLYMOUTH. James Fox in behalf of himself and the rest of the inhabitants of Plymouth requested a cut road which was ordered under proviso that there must be no disturbance of Indians.

- 2—1693—CHELTENHAM. Inhabitants of Cheltenham petitioned for a road to Philadelphia and Germantown. The road was confirmed if in use four years.
- 4—1702—ABINGTON. A road was laid out, prior to 1702, through Abington to extend to the end of the county. Persons refused to help cut. Road seems to have been confirmed only to Dreshertown. See No. 135.
- 6—1704—GWYNEDD. Reviewers were ordered to lay out a road from Philadelphia to Germantown, and the uttermost part of the township of North Wales, the early name of Gwynedd.
- 8—1706—WHITEMARSH to LOWER PROVIDENCE. This road extended from the mill on the Wissahickon, through Roxborough to the Perkiomen and was known later as the Germantown Pike.
- 12—1712—GWYNEDD. This is the old Welsh road. John Humphreys and Edward Foulke built a bridge which became a noted landmark. McKean road, part way the old Pennypack road. See No. 145 .
- 15—1712—ABINGTON. This is the road from Abington Meetinghouse to the Byberry Meetinghouse.
- 19—1713—SKIPPACK. This is the Skippack road from Bebbertownship to Philadelphia. The road ended at that time about half a mile above Lucon.
- 20—1715—PLYMOUTH. Petition for a road from Gwynedd to David Williams', used ten years—opened and confirmed.
- 21—1716—WHITEMARSH and UPPER DUBLIN.
- 22—1718—MONTGOMERY. Whitehall turnpike.
- 23—1718—UPPER PROVIDENCE. Ridge Pike.
- 25—1721—ABINGTON.
- 26—1720—MORELAND. Road from Horsham Meetinghouse to "Bibury" and the Delaware river—Byberry road.
- 27—1721—MORELAND. County line near J. Jones' to Chamberlain's road.
- 29—1722—HORSHAM. Governor's road—later Doylestown turnpike and Easton road—requested by Governor Keith.
- 30—1722—WHITEMARSH, PERKIOMEN. Ridge road and Egypt road—resurveyed 1731. At the second survey there was considerable departure from the first draft.
- 30a—1722—HORSHAM, MORELAND. Along county line from York road to the path from the ferry on the Neshaminy to Farmer's mill.

- 31—1723—LIMERICK, through Falcner Swamp to Oley.
32—1724—HORSHAM. McKean road.
33—1723—LOWER MERION. The road from the Market Place, Germantown, to the Lancaster road.
35—1724—UPPER MERION. Road from Whiteland to Swedes Ford—Swedes Ford road, later King-of-Prussia road, now King road.
37—1724—MORELAND. Along the county line to meet a road proposed in Bucks county.
37a—1724—ABINGTON.
42—1725—LOWER MERION.
43—1725—UPPER DUBLIN. Obstructed by the Germantown Corporation, 1703—Jenkintown road. See No. 4, petition for a road to enter the Plymouth road—Jenkintown road.
44—1726—WEST POTTS GROVE. Rutter's forge to the Great road at Pottstown.
45—1726—PLYMOUTH. From Maxatawny road to Joseph Gray's mill to Lower Swede road.
46—1726—SKIPPACK to FREDERICK. The Big or Great road called the Swamp road between Lucon and Schwenksville.
47—1727—BRANCHVILLE to GWYNEDD. Sumneytown pike,
46—1726—SKIPPACK to FREDERICK. The Big or Great road,
49—1727—MORELAND.
50—1728—MONTGOMERY.
50b—1728—Road from Skippack, through Lederachville and Salfordville, to Sumneytown.
51—1730—GWYNEDD.
54—1731—MORELAND. Horsham road.
56—1733—CHELTENHAM. R. Murray to P. Rittenhouse's mill.
60—1736—HATFIELD. Bethlehem turnpike, part of.
61—1734—LOWER PROVIDENCE. Description does not agree with roads as shown on recent maps. From Pawlings to St James' Church, Evansburg.
62—1734—CHELTENHAM. Church road. Whitemarsh Church to Oxford Church.
63—1734—UPPER DUBLIN. Limekiln pike.
64—1734—ABINGTON, CHELTENHAM.
64a—1735—GERMANTOWN to ABINGTON, Washington lane.
66—1735—UPPER HANOVER, MARLBOROUGH.

- 67—1735—UPPER HANOVER. This road, as laid out, ran from the upper end of Pennsburg to the Macoby at Greenlane, and made only three angles in the whole course.
- 68—1734—Allentown road. Upper Salford, Franconia to Upper Gwynedd.
- 68a—1735—TOWAMENCIN.
- 69—1735—WORCESTER.
- 70—1736—WORCESTER.
- 71—1734—LOWER MERION to WHITEMARSH, Godley road,
- 72—1734—NORRITON, Norris' mills to Manatawny road.
- 73—1735—MONTGOMERY, HORSHAM. Montgomery road was joined to Cow Path road. See No. 94.
- 74—1735—CHELTENHAM. This was the historic Limekiln road from Fitzwatertown to Branchtown, laid out before 1700, but of which the records have been lost.
- 75—1735—MARLBOROUGH. Macungie road, Hoppenville road, Geryville and Sumneytown turnpike.
- 76—1736—UPPER MERION to LOWER PROVIDENCE.
- 78—1737—HORSHAM. Whitehall turnpike, Butler turnpike.
- 80—1738—UPPER DUBLIN. See No. 136.
- 81—1738—NORRITON, WHITPAIN. Swede Street road.
- 83—1738—UPPER SALFORD. In part, Skippack road.
- 84—1739—NEW HANOVER and DOUGLASS. The Big or Great road.
- 85—1739—WHITEMARSH. Upper Dublin to Plymouth Meetinghouse.
- 86—1739—ABINGTON, Upper Dublin, extension of Susquehanna road. See No. 135.
- 87—1739—LOWER MERION. Haverford Meetinghouse to the Schuylkill river, in use over thirty years, Old Haverford road, Ralph Ashton Ferry to Chester county.
- 88—1739—WHITEMARSH.
- 90—1741—LOWER MERION. Conestoga road.
- 91—1736—LOWER SALFORD. Morris road. This road was surveyed several times. In 1763, a petition stated that the road was of uncertain breadth, had never been opened and was of little use. Reviewers and re-reviewers were appointed.
- 92—1740—CHELTENHAM. "Which said road (since the many settlements) has been so turned that it has now become difficult to pass into the great road." (Petition.)

- 93—1740—WHITPAIN. Road connecting Swede Ford road and Farmar's mill—was often changed—Williams' road.
- 94—1740—UPPER SALFORD, FRANCONIA, HATFIELD. Cow Path road, was joined to the Montgomery road.
- 95—1742—PROVIDENCE. Black Rock road. Thomas Lewis road.
- 96—1743—Road from Schuylkill river, through Upper Providence, to Perkiomen Bridge, along Germantown pike, through Worcester, Upper Gwynedd to North Wales Meeting-house.
- 97—1742—ABINGTON, CHELTENHAM. From Fletcher's Mill road to York road.
- 98—1742—UPPER HANOVER. Pottstown road.
- 100—1748—Gulph road, laid out prior to 1748.
- 102—1745—HATFIELD, along county line.
- 103—1745—UPPER MERION. Holstein road.
- 105—1745—MORELAND, SPRINGFIELD.
- 106—1745—UPPER and LOWER PROVIDENCE. Road to and from Daniel Reece's mill.
- 107—1745—HORSHAM.
- 108—1745—MORELAND.
- 112—1747—WHITPAIN.
- 114—1748—MORELAND.
- 115—1748—SPRINGFIELD.
- 118—1748—UPPER PROVIDENCE, SKIPPACK.
- 119—1748—UPPER SALFORD.
- 122—1750—TOWAMENCIN. Forty-foot road.
- 125—1751—LOWER MERION. County line.
- 128—1751—PLYMOUTH. Spring Mill to Gwynedd Meetinghouse.
- 130—1751—MERION, PLYMOUTH. Conshohocken road. Butler pike.
- 133—1753—HATFIELD.
- 135—1753—UPPER DUBLIN. Extension of Susquehanna street.
- 136—1753—BUCKS COUNTY LINE. From Chamberlain road northwest nineteen and one-half miles to Bethlehem road. See No. 180.
- 137—1753—CHELTENHAM. County Line.
- 138—1753—PLYMOUTH. Road used for thirty years.
- 139—1754—LIMERICK. Linfield road, stopped up after forty years' use.
- 141—1754—WHITEMARSH.
- 142—1755—UPPER DUBLIN. This was part of road confirmation No. 32.

- 143—1755—UPPER HANOVER.
- 145—1756—MORELAND.
- 146—1756—LOWER PROVIDENCE.
- 147—1756—SKIPPACK. Coincides in part with road No. 205.
- 148—1756—WHITPAIN.
- 149—1758—UPPER GWYNEDD.
- 150—1758—FRANCONIA, UPPER SALFORD. County line to
Cryder's mill.
- 151—1758—UPPER PROVIDENCE.
- 152—1758—LOWER MERION.
- 153—1758—HORSHAM.
- 155—1759—LOWER PROVIDENCE.
- 156—1760—UPPER and LOWER PROVIDENCE.
- 158—1760—GWYNEDD.
- 159—1760—GWYNEDD.
- 163—1761—MORELAND.
- 164—1761—UPPER MERION. Kennedy road.
- 165—1761—UPPER PROVIDENCE. Egypt road.
- 172—1762—UPPER PROVIDENCE.
- 173—1763—LOWER MERION.
- 175—1764—FREDERICK.
- 177—1763—UPPER MERION.
- 179—1765—LOWER MERION.
- 180—1765—MONTGOMERY. County line to Bethlehem road.
- 185—1766—MARLBOROUGH to LIMERICK. Ridge road; part
of, Fagleysville road.
- 187—1767—MARLBOROUGH. Ridge road.
- 190—1767—LOWER PROVIDENCE. Road, St. James' Church
to Reece's mill.
- 192—1767—LOWER MERION. Between the same points as No.
71.
- 195—1768—MORELAND and ABINGTON.
- 196—1769—DOUGLASS.
- 197—1769—LOWER PROVIDENCE to WHITEMARSH. Ridge
road. Petitioners complained that the road was nar-
row, seldom repaired, and that there was no record
of courses or width.
- 200—1770—MORELAND.
- 201—1770—WHITPAIN.
- 203—1770—CHELTENHAM. Jenkintown road.
- 204—1770—MORELAND. Southampton road, Chamberlain road.

- 205—1771—SKIPPACK. Road had been in use twenty years, but had not been opened. Skippack road to Germantown pike.
- 206—1771—LOWER MERION. Spring Mill road, had been used many years, but was now stopped up.
- 208—1772—WHITEMARSH to LOWER PROVIDENCE. Germantown pike. The road was laid out at this time because the overseers were neglecting to repair it for want of records.
- 214—1772—UPPER PROVIDENCE, LIMERICK. Road from Trappe Church to Chester county, cutting through Royersford, touching the lower end of Peter's Island.
- 217—1773—PLYMOUTH.
- 219—1773—MARLBOROUGH. This road was confirmed on petition of Thomas Maybury to accommodate his mill.
- 220—1774—HORSHAM, MONTGOMERY. See No. 136 and No. 30a.
- 222—1774—NORRITON. Township line road between Norriton and Lower Providence.
- 224—1774—NEW HANOVER. Petitioners claimed that the road was not laid out, and therefore closed up. Road No. 46 laid out to the mill, 1726.
- 225—1774—BARBADOES ISLAND. Road laid out from Egypt road, across the Schuylkill river and Barbadoes Island to Swedes Ford road.
- 227—1775—PLYMOUTH.
-
- 142S—Lancaster road.
- 145S—Philadelphia to Norristown.
- 146S—Philadelphia by way of Ridge pike to Pottstown, through Berks county to Reading.
- 151S—Philadelphia by way of Cheltenham, Abington, etc., to Doylestown.
- 153S—Philadelphia by way of Springfield, Upper Dublin, Montgomery, etc., to Allentown.
- 155S—Willow Grove to New Hope.
- 158S—Collegeville by way of Perkiomen, Frederick, Marlborough, and Upper Hanover to Allentown.
- 178S—Norristown by way of Norriton, Whitpain, the Gwynedds, and Montgomery to Doylestown.
- 197S—Philadelphia by way of Skippack road, etc., to Reading.

- 198S—Lower Moreland by way of Horsham, Lower Salford, etc.,
to Greenlane.
- 201S—Valley Forge through the Merions to Bala.
- 202S—West Chester by way of Upper Providence to Collegeville.
- 225S—Chester county by way of Gulph Mills to Norristown.
- 270S—Downington by way of Upper Providence, Perkiomen, Skip-
pack, Lower Salford and Franconia to Bucks county.
- 284S—Pottstown by way of Boyertown to Hereford.
- 362S—Philadelphia by way of Abington and Lower Moreland to
Wrightstown.
- 373S—Philadelphia by way of Cheltenham, Upper Dublin, and
Horsham to Bucks county.

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